DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

SHELTER IN PLACE

HOME SURVIVAL GUIDE

Prepared by Elijah J. Mesfin-El

"So, there isn't but one supreme issue for my people to use to redeem that which was lost, and that is through the above statements. Then the lion and lamb can lie down together in yonder hills. And neither will be harmed, because Love, Truth, Peace, Freedom and Justice will be reigning in this land. In those days the United States will be one of the greatest civilized and prosperous governments of the world. But if the above principles are not carried out by the citizens and my people in this government the worst is yet to come, because the Great God of the Universe is not pleased with the works that are being performed in North America by my people and this great sin must be removed from the land to save it from ***enormous earthquakes, diseases, etc.***"

--FROM THE PROPHET
Prophet Noble Drew Ali

Excerpt from: Moorish Literature
Editorial – A Divine Warning By The Prophet For The Nations

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Moorish Science Temple Of America Listings..... 117-124

INTRODUCTION

THIS PAMPHLET IS DEDICATED TO THE MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN WHO LOST THEIR LIVES DURING THE DESTRUCTION CAUSED BY HURRICANE KATRINA, IN NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, AUG & SEP, 2006. LET US REFLECT ON THE LESSON THAT WITH PREPAREDNESS AND DISASTER PLANNING IN PLACE, LIVES COULD HAVE BEEN SAVED. MAY THIS PAMPHLET BE USED AS A LIGHTHOUSE OF INFORMATION, AND A GUIDE, TO AID US ALL IN TIMES OF CRISIS. MAY ALLAH GUIDE AND PROTECT US ALL.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

QUESTION:
WHY WERE THE BROTHERS AND SISTERS DISPLACED IN NEW ORLEANS REFERRED TO AS 'REFUGEES'?

Refugee- One that flees, especially; a person who flees to a foreign country or power to escape danger or persecution. *(Key Word: Foreign. Weren't those brothers and sisters American citizens? In Greensburg, Kansas 2006, a predominantly European American city was destroyed by tornadoes and the term refugee was not used to describe the citizens who were displaced from their homes.)*

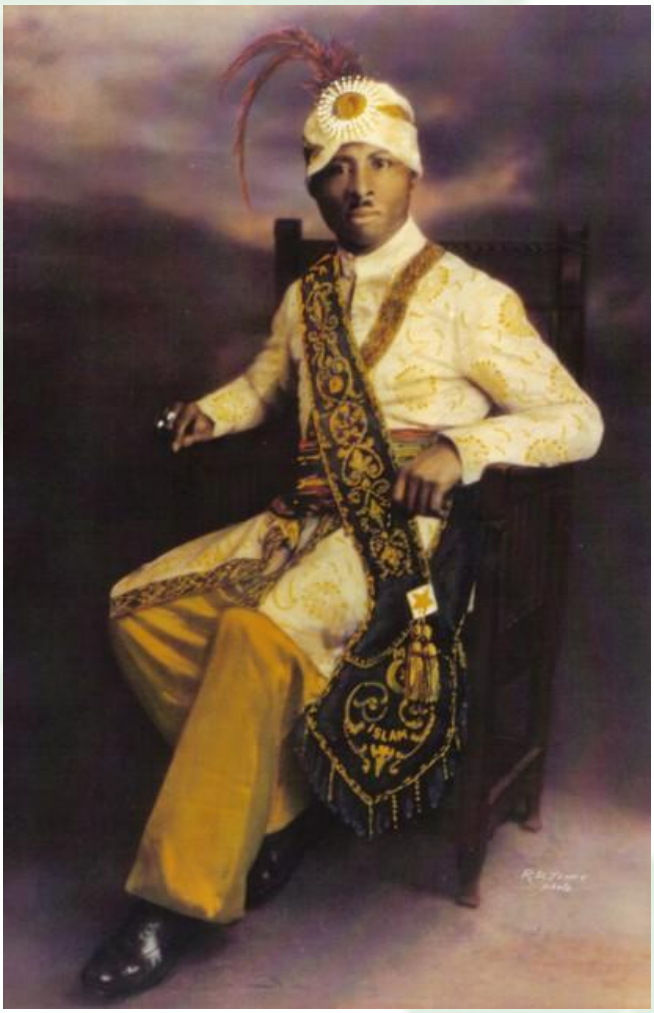
Law Dictionary Definitions:

Nationality- The quality or character which arises from the fact of a person belonging to a nation. Nationality determines the ***political status*** of the individual, especially with reference to allegiance.
*(Note: The root word of Nationality is '**Nation**')*

Nation- A people, or aggregation of men, existing in the form of an organized jural society, usually inhabiting a distinct portion of the earth, speaking the same language, ***using the same customs, possessing historic continuity, and distinguished from other like groups by their racial origin and characteristics***, and generally, but not necessarily living under the same government and sovereignty. ***(Note: Do so-called black people have the same customs as Europeans or so-called white people? Or were so-called black people forced to acknowledge European customs through forced slavery, forced religious practices, etc? Do so-called black people share the same historic continuity as Europeans? Are so called black people and so called white people the same people, or do we have different decent nationalities? Are so-called black people distinguishably different than Europeans? Is Africa a Nation?)***

ANSWER:
THOSE PEOPLE WHO CALL THEMSELVES BLACK, NEGRO, COLORED, AFRICAN-AMERICAN, ETC., ARE A NATIONLESS PEOPLE, AND HAVE BEEN CLASSIFIED AS FOREIGN, WITHOUT A DESCENT NATIONALITY. SO CALLED "BLACK PEOPLE" ARE NOT PROTECTED BY THE ORIGNAL ORGANIC ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND HAVE BEEN PLACED UNDER THE 14TH AMENDMENT AS CORPORATE CITIZENS. THEY ARE OUTLAWS, OR THEY HAVE BEEN PLACED OUTSIDE OF BEING PROTECTED BY DE JURE CONSTITUTIONAL LAW. THIS IS WHY F.E.M.A. TOOK SO LONG TO HELP THEM. THERE WAS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST FOR THE CITIZENS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO UTILIZE RESOURCES TO AID A PEOPLE WHO HAVE NO NATIONALITY, EMBRACE SLAVE TERMS SUCH AS BLACK AND NEGRO TO DESCRIBE THEMSELVES, EMBRACE A VOLITILE CREATED SLAVE CULTURE, AND HAVE NO ANCESTRAL DIVINE LAW OR CREED GOVERNING THEM RENDERING THEM A DANGER TO CIVILIZED SOCIETY.

PROPHET NOBLE DREW ALI



"I love my people and I desire their unity and mine back to their own free National and Divine standard because day by day they have been violating the national and constitutional laws of their government by claiming names and principles that are unconstitutional. If Italians, Greeks, English, Chinese, Japanese, Turks, and Arabians are forced to proclaim their free national name and religion before the constitutional government of the United States of America, it is no more than right that the law should be enforced upon all other American citizens alike. In all other governments when a man is born and raised there and asked for his national descent name and if he fails to give it, he is misused, imprisoned, or exiled. Any group of people that fail to answer up to the constitutional standards of law by name and principles, because to be a citizen of any government you must claim your national descent name. Because they place their trust upon issue and names formed by their forefathers."

FROM THE PROPHET
Prophet Noble Drew Ali

Moorish Literature,
A Divine Warning By The Prophet For The Nations

WHY IS THE WORLD IN A STATE OF CHAOS?

With the current condition our world is in today, disaster (great destruction, distress, or misfortune), whether it be natural disaster, or man made disaster, is governed by Law. When an Asiatic nation reaches the lowest depths of humanity and loses sight of the divine and national principles that Allah had forged into the hearts of their ancient mothers and fathers, Allah in His infinite Wisdom, Will, and Love, sends a Prophet to redeem that nation from its fallen stage of humanity. The Prophet or messenger sent by Allah serves as a guidepost for all peoples. The last Prophet in these days, sent to the Asiatics of the Americas, is Prophet Noble Drew Ali.

The Great God of The Universe, the Father of you and I, whom we call Allah by name as a nation of people *in this cycle age of time*, was and is called upon by different nations and different names, such as Parabrahm by the Brahmans, the Egyptians called him Thoth, Zeus was his name in Greece, Yahweh is his Hebrew name, but everywhere Allah was, is, and evermore will be the causeless cause, the rootless root from which all things have grown. In the following excerpt from The Holy Koran of the Moorish Science Temple of America, Yeshua explains the unity of life to a Buddhist priest, Barato Arabo.

The Holy Koran of the M.S.T. of A.
CHAPTER 10 pg. 16, instructions 3,4,5 and 10
'YESHUA SPAKE ON THE UNITY OF ALLAH AND MAN TO THE HINDUS'

> *"And Yeshua said to them, with much delight: "I speak to you concerning life – the brotherhood of life. The universal Allah is one, yet He is more than one; all things are one. By the sweet breath of Allah all life is bound in one; so if you touch a fiber of a living thing you send a thrill from center to the outer bounds of life….. It is cruelty that makes the world awry, when men have learned that when they harm a living thing, they harm themselves, they surely will not kill, nor cause a thing that Allah has made to suffer pain.""*

Man in his essence, is not the body or the soul, but he/she is a spirit and *part* of Allah. All life is bound by spiritual cords. Man as spirit is functioning on the plane of things that are made manifest within a fleshy form. The call and communication with all of life is made plain in the Holy Koran of the M.S.T. of A. Chapter 1 entitled, 'The Creation And Fall Of Man' and it states, ***"Hear, now, oh protoplast and earth and plant and beast! "Hear, now, ye creeping things of earth, ye fish that swim, ye birds that fly! "Hear, now, ye winds that blow, ye thunders and ye lightnings of the sky! "Hear, now, ye spirits of the fire, of water, earth and air! Hear, now, oh everything that is, or was, or evermore will be, for Wisdom speaks from out the highest plane of spirit life."*** Everything, as it has been stated is interconnected within the circle of life. **Spirit-man** as a thought of Allah, and a seed, holds within himself the potencies of Allah, just as the seed of any plant of earth holds deep within itself the attributes of every part of that especial plant. **Spirit-man,** the human seed that came forth from the heart of Allah was full ordained to be the ***Lord of the plane of soul, and of the plane of things made manifest,*** man is indeed the marvel of the universe for this reason. The Holy Koran of the M.S.T. of A. Chapter 8 Verse 12, entitled, 'Yeshua Reveals To The People Of Their Sinful Ways' states, ***"And you must bear in mind that when man harms in thought or word or deed another man, he does a wrong to Allah."*** Man gave up his birthrights just to gratify his lower self. Man lost his birthright of being the Lord of the plane of soul/Lord of the planet Earth/etc. But man will regain his lost estate, his heritage; but he must do it in a conflict that cannot be told in words. That conflict takes place in the minds of men and women, directing one's will, and having the knowledge of the higher and lower self. Man must suffer trials and temptations manifold, but man will be fully saved, redeemed, perfected by the things he suffers on the plane of flesh (manifest), and on the plane of soul. All life forms are thoughts of Allah. There are 7 ether planes wherein life is clothed in substance. The planes of protoplast, earth, plant, beast, man, angel, and cherubim.

All forms of life on every plane are thoughts of Allah, all creatures think, and every creature is possessed of will, and in its measure, has the power to choose, such as: spirit-protoplast, spirit-earth, spirit-plant, spirit-beast, spirit-man, etc. Spirit is what all life truly is. The highest plane of life is spirit life. Through this ancient wisdom, knowledge, and understanding we see the cause of the disastrous effects that man in his pursuit of illusionary power and material gain has manifested. ***All life is one!*** As an Asiatic people we have a natural connection to Allah, to the earth, and to all life therein. The Moabites/Moors were and are masters of Nature's Laws because of that natural connection. Our ancestors were masters of Herbology, Earth Polarity, Alchemy, Metallurgy, Astrology, Geometry, Metaphysics, Law, Government, Anti-Gravity, Forces of Nature, etc.

After the Moors fell in Spain in the year 1492, because of dishonoring the Covenant of the Great God Allah, (***"Honor thy Father and thy Mother, that thy days may be long upon the Earthland which the Lord thy God-Allah hath given thee.")*** and straying after the Gods (ideals) of Europe of whom the Moors knew nothing, the European nations united; set off to Northwest Amexem (or what is now called North America) with the help of Morocco (A kingdom and part of the Moroccan Empire founded by the Moors on their sojourn from out of the ancient land of Canaan.)

The Ancient Moabites founded the holy City of Mecca, and in later years formed the kingdoms of Morocco, Algiers, Tunis, Tripoli, etc., eventually aiding European sons in the establishment of what is now called the United States of America. The European nations were contracted land and allowed to do business and set up colonies amongst the Moors here in the Americas. The Moors had a government and ruled all of the Americas from Alaska to Argentina; including the Atlantis Islands (renamed the Caribbean Islands). The fabricated story of millions upon millions of Asiatic peoples being brought here to the Americas is a lie. The Moorish International Flag is a red flag with a five pointed green star in the center, and is over 10,000 years old. The Moors have been in this hemisphere since time immemorial.

Prophet Noble Drew Ali informed us that these spiritual lessons have not been known because the Moslems of India, Egypt and Palestine had these secrets and kept them back from the outside world, and when the time appointed by Allah they loosened the keys and freed these secrets, and for the first time in ages have these secrets been delivered in the hands of the Moslems of America. It is not strange, there are no happenings, law governs all events. Prophet Noble Drew Ali informs us in his editorial entitled, *'A Divine Warning By The Prophet For The Nations,'* ***"…And it is a sin for any group of people to violate the national constitutional laws of a free national government and cling to the names and the principles that delude to slavery."*** Defining "sin" we see it as a transgression of a divine/ecclesiastical, moral law, civic law, and natures law. National principles and Religious principles have always been one and the same in Moorish government and law. It was when we strayed from the principles of Love, Truth, Peace, Freedom, and Justice that our nation fell. Prophet Noble Drew Ali in The Holy Koran of the M.S.T. of A. CH. 47 Pg. 59 again informs us:

H.K. of the M.S.T. of A.
CHAPTER 47 pg. 59
EGYPT, THE CAPITAL EMPIRE OF THE DOMINION OF AFRICA
Verses 16 & 17:

"Through sin and disobedience every nation has suffered slavery, due to the fact that they honored not the creed and principles of their forefathers. That is why the nationality of the Moors was taken away from them in 1774 and the word Negro, black and colored was given to the Asiatics of America who were of Moorish descent, because they honored not the principles of their mother and father, and strayed after the gods of Europe of whom they knew nothing."

The Moorish Science Temple of America Divine Constitution and By Laws, divinely prepared by Prophet Noble Drew Ali, informs us that negroes, colored folks, black people and Ethiopia were names given to slaves by slave holders in 1779 and lasted until 1865 during the time of slavery. These same names have been used to improperly classify the unconscious Moors of North America, and by those unconscious Moors who do identify with these same slave names, through the laws of association they are rendered 21st century slaves, outside of the law, and thus outlaws psychologically, metaphysically, and literally. The slave tags of black, negro, etc. are not attached to the human family of nations. Being part of that human vine and fig tree, or family of nations, requires one to proclaim a nationality. We praise Allah for manifesting His thought in the person of Prophet Noble Drew Ali in 1886 A.D. in the state of North Carolina amongst indigenous Cherokee Moorish tribes, setting him forth on a divine mission to teach those sleeping Asiatics of North America, newly freed from the clutches of physical slavery, that they have a nationality, and that nationality is Moorish American. Calling oneself black accompanies with it a culture, a language, a religion, etc, and that culture is in fact a slave culture. As we look at the history of the slave culture of the United States of America, we also see that those slave designations have changed decade to decade. Property identifications changing from negroes, to colored folks, then black started being used in the late 50's and 60's, then Ethiopian in the 70's, now in 2007 the slave tag/quasi nationality for the time being is African-American. But with a basic intelligent understanding of nationality, there is a knowledge that nationality **doesn't change from decade to decade.** Descent Nationality is something that is permanent and originates from your *ancient* mothers and fathers bloodline. So we can see that these aforementioned slave names are not nationalities, and additionally Africa is a *continent*, therefore African-American is excluded as being a *divine* or *lawful* nationality originating from a divine Asiatic **Nation**. The true and divine name of Africa is Amexem. It is Prophet Noble Drew Ali, who masterfully explains the divine relationship between nationality, nation, ancient principles, civilized government, and creed.

In the face of what is now called the information age, those who call themselves "African Americans" have failed to study and research their ancient, royal history from the proper perspective. This is due to a condition called 'national amnesia.' The so-called "black" people of the Americas have forgotten who they are, and who their ancestors were. Black is a color. Black according to science means death. What does colored mean? Colored means anything that has been painted stained varnished or dyed. A black person is 14th Amendment fiction created by Europeans during the time of slavery. The institution of slavery systematically enforced the stripping of the descent national name (which is **Moorish**) and the divine creed (Islam), which our ancestors adhered to since the manifestation of Man on this earth plane. Islam is a very simple faith. It requires man to recognize his duties toward God Allah, his Creator and his fellow creatures. Islam was founded by the ancient Moabites/Moors for our earthly and divine salvation. Christianity's foundation began in Rome, prepared by Europeans for their earthly salvation. Christianity was founded hundreds of years after the death of Prophet Jesus, who was of the true blood of the ancient Canaanites, and Moabites and the inhabitants of Africa.

Our people here in the Americas were forced to accept Christianity by Europeans under the threat of torture, whippings, rape, and death. For this reason, our Asiatic brothers and sisters cling to the names and principles that delude to slavery. Believing what is taught inside of European controlled schools, and being indoctrinated through Christian churches, the so called "African American" has gone astray, being cultured and raised inside of a European paradigm. And this brothers and sisters is where the divine sin lies, and where the world has been thrown into a state of hell. Heaven and hell are states of your mind. And so, when a young man shoots and kills another young man, the ethers are shocked, and a thrill is sent from the center to the outer bounds of life. When a young woman has an abortion, a thrill is sent from the center to the outer bounds of life. When a 3 year old boy is told by his mother, "You're just like your no good dad, you will never amount to anything," a thrill is sent from the center to the outer bounds of life. And when a politician makes a policy that diverts hard working citizens' tax money for societal improvement into his own bank account, a thrill is sent from the center to the outer bounds of life. Likewise Moors, when the unconscious Asiatics of North America (those individuals **labeled** negro, black, colored, etc., who are the descendants of the ancient

Moabites/Canaanites from the land of Canaan, i.e. Mothers and Fathers of civilization), refer to themselves by the aforementioned foreign slave names, indulging themselves in a culture that deludes to hatred, slander, lewdness, murder, theft and everything that harms, a thrill is sent from center to the outer bounds of life. These hellish states of the people's minds in society, reflects the hellish destruction that is taking place directly and indirectly in the world.

Corporate industries and governments, empowered through politics and greed throughout the world, are acting out a role of the lower self; going to and fro the earth seeking to devour anyone and anything to make an economic profit. Industrial catastrophes have ruined the environment and depleted the ozone layer. By hunting and unnecessarily expanding economic ventures into natural habitats, many species of animals are being put on the extinction list everyday; entire forests are being cut down for profit; toxic waste is being deposited into the oceans, rivers, and waterways of the world, and man in his shameless blood thirst and quest for power has created weapons that kill human beings through policies, wars, and deception. Entire countries are starved out through neo-colonialism and greed. Precious national resources are controlled by the rich and the politicians, and these resources never reach the citizens and little children who desperately need them. Hatred has become a cancer on the souls of our people. We also are witnessing like never before, a change in the weather such as snowing in April, as well as experiencing 70 degree days in December. We have seen numerous Tsunamis', as well as a modern day sinking of Atlantis, when the city of New Orleans was flooded and brought under water. And just recently in 2006 an entire town was destroyed by a Tornado (Greensburg, Kansas) in 1 hour. Truly, we are in the last days, and we are witnessing Allah's judgments. We must use wisdom, knowledge, and understanding when dealing with all situations. Prophet Noble Drew Ali has given us the tools and foundation we need to save ourselves and our nation. The ancient Moabites/Moors have saved humanity on many occasions, and we will do it again, through the divine principles of Love, Truth, Peace, Freedom, and Justice.

The following information that has been compiled, and extracted from the flowing sources:

Federal Emergency Management Agency
National Weather service
U.S. Military Disaster Preparedness Manuals
Missouri Department Of National Resources
Woodland Survival
Disaster Survival Resources

This pamphlet is for all American Citizens to utilize in time of a national/civil crisis or natural disaster. As in all times of crisis, the main focus should be to stay calm, level headed, and remember that Allah is leading and victory is sure. All praises are due to Allah!

SECTION I

-

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

"There is going to be an earthquake that will split the United States in two."

Reported oral statement of Prophet Noble Drew Ali

Where will you or your family be when a disaster strikes? What plans do you have in place to contact one another or meet at a certain location if separated? What would you do if basic utility services such as gas, electricity, or telephones were cut off? What are some common natural disasters that occur and how can I gain the knowledge to better prepare for them? These are some basic questions that are the first stages of planning for disaster preparedness. Disasters can strike very quickly and without warning and the best defense for any disaster is a good Disaster Preparedness Plan. Proper and thorough planning brings forth that divine knowledge whereby one can avoid or minimize the damage brought about by catastrophic situations. The following questions are part of the pre-planning phase of Disaster Preparedness. Take time to seriously analyze and reflect on these questions. *Check the box* next to each question once the answer or plan has been obtained. Write down your answers in a separate sturdy notebook, for reference in time of an emergency.

INITIAL DISASTER PLANNING QUESTIONS

- ❑ What are the specific hazards/natural disasters that threaten the state and city where I live; the surrounding states? (Contact your local emergency management office for info)

A

Alabama Emergency Management Agency
5898 County Road 41
P.O. Drawer 2160
Clanton, Alabama 35046-2160
(205) 280-2200
(205) 280-2495 FAX
ema.alabama.gov/

Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
P.O. Box 5750
Fort Richardson, Alaska 99505-5750
(907) 428-7000

(907) 428-7009 FAX
www.ak-prepared.com

American Samoa Territorial Emergency Management Coordination
(TEMCO)
American Samoa Government
P.O. Box 1086
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
(011)(684) 699-6415
(011)(684) 699-6414 FAX

Arizona Division of Emergency Management
5636 E. McDowell Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85008-3495
(800) 411-2336 | (602) 244-0504
(602) 464-6356 FAX
www.dem.azdema.gov

Arkansas Department of Emergency Management
Bldg. # 9501
Camp Joseph T. Robinson
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72199-9600
(501) 683-6700
(501) 683-7890 FAX
www.adem.arkansas.gov/

C

California Emergency Management Agency
Mike Dayton
Acting Secretary
3650 Schriever Avenue
Mather, California 95655
(916) 845-8506
(916) 845-8511 FAX
www.calema.ca.gov

Colorado Division of Emergency Management
Department of Local Affairs
9195 East Mineral Avenue
Suite 200
Centennial , Colorado 80112
(720) 852-6600
(720) 852-6750 Fax
www.dola.state.co.us/ or www.coemergency.com

Connecticut Office of Emergency Management
Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
25 Sigourney Street 6th floor

Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5042
(860) 256-0800
(860) 256-0815 FAX
www.ct.gov/demhs/

D

Delaware Emergency Management Agency
165 Brick Store Landing Road
Smyrna, Delaware 19977
(302) 659-3362
(302) 659-6855 FAX
www.dema.delaware.gov

District of Columbia Emergency Management Agency
2720 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, S.E.
Second Floor
Washington, D.C. 20032
(202) 727-6161
(202) 673-2290 FAX
dcema.dc.gov

F

Florida Division of Emergency Management
2555 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100
(850) 413-9969
(850) 488-1016 FAX
floridadisaster.org

G

Georgia Emergency Management Agency
935 East Confederate Ave SE
P.O. Box 18055
Atlanta, Georgia 30316-0055

(404) 635-7000
(404) 635-7205 FAX
www.gema.state.ga.us

Guam Homeland Security/Office of Civil Defense
221B Chalan Palasyo
Agana Heights, Guam 96910

Tel:(671)475-9600
Fax:(671)477-3727
http://www.guamhs.org/

H

Hawaii State Civil Defense
3949 Diamond Head Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-4495
(808) 733-4300
(808) 733-4287 FAX
www.scd.hawaii.gov

I

Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security
4040 Guard Street, Bldg. 600
Boise, Idaho 83705-5004
(208) 422-3040
(208) 422-3044 FAX
www.bhs.idaho.gov/

Illinois Emergency Management Agency
2200 S. Dirksen Pkwy.
Springfield, Illinois 62703
Office: (217) 782-2700 or (217) 782-2700
Fax: (217) 557-1978
www.state.il.us/iema

Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Indiana Government Center South
302 West Washington Street, Room E208
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2767
Office: (317) 232-3986
Fax: (317) 232-3895
http://www.in.gov/dhs/emermgtngpgm.htm

Indiana State Emergency Management Agency
302 West Washington Street
Room E-208 A
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2767
(317) 232-3986
(317) 232-3895 FAX
www.ai.org/sema/index.html

Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division
7105 NW 70th Ave, Camp Dodge
Building W-4

J

Johnston, Iowa 50131
(515) 725-3231
(515) 281-3260 FAX
www.iowahomelandsecurity.org

K

Kansas Division of Emergency Management
2800 S.W. Topeka Boulevard
Topeka, Kansas 66611-1287
(785) 274-1409
(785) 274-1426 FAX
www.kansastag.gov/kdem_default.asp

Kentucky Emergency Management
EOC Building
100 Minuteman Parkway Bldg. 100
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-6168
(502) 607-1682 or (800) 255-2587
(502) 607-1614 FAX
www.kyem.ky.gov/

L

Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness
7667 Independence Blvd.
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806
(225) 925-7500
(225) 925-7501 FAX
http://www.gohsep.la.gov/

M

Maine Emergency Management Agency
#72 State House Station
45 Commerce Drive, Suite #2
Augusta, Maine 04333-0072
(207) 624-4400
(207) 287-3180 (FAX)
www.maine.gov/mema

CNMI Emergency Management Office
Office of the Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 10007
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
(670) 322-9529
(670) 322-7743 FAX
www.cnmiemo.gov.mp

National Disaster Management Office
Office of the Chief Secretary
P.O. Box 15
Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands 96960-0015
(011)(692) 625-5181
(011)(692) 625-6896 FAX

Maryland Emergency Management Agency
Camp Fretterd Military Reservation
5401 Rue Saint Lo Drive
Reistertown, Maryland 21136
(410) 517-3600
(877) 636-2872 Toll-Free
(410) 517-3610 FAX
www.mema.state.md.us/

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
400 Worcester Road
Framingham, Massachusetts 01702-5399
(508) 820-2000
(508) 820-2030 FAX
www.state.ma.us/mema

Michigan State Police, Emergency Management & Homeland Security Division
Michigan Dept. of State Police
4000 Collins Road
Lansing, Michigan 48909-8136
(517) 333-5042

(517) 333-4987 FAX
www.michigan.gov/emhsd

National Disaster Control Officer
Federated States of Micronesia
P.O. Box PS-53
Kolonia, Pohnpei - Micronesia 96941
(011)(691) 320-8815
(001)(691) 320-2785 FAX

Minnesota Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division
Minnesota Dept. of Public Safety
444 Cedar Street, Suite 223
St. Paul, MN 55101-6223
Office: (651) 201-7400
Fax: (651) 296-0459
www.hsem.state.mn.us

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency
P.O. Box 5644
Pearl, MS 39288-5644
(601) 933-6362
(800) 442-6362 Toll Free
(601) 933-6800 FAX
www.msema.org

Missouri Emergency Management Agency
2302 Militia Drive
P.O. Box 116
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
(573) 526-9100
(573) 634-7966 FAX
sema.dps.mo.gov

JFHQ-MT
Montana Division of Disaster & Emergency Services
1956 Mt Majo Street
PO BOX 4789
Fort Harrison, Montana 59636-4789
(406) 841-3911
(406) 841-3965 FAX
www.dma.mt.gov/des/

N

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
1300 Military Road

Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-1090
(402) 471-7421
(402) 471-7433 FAX
www.nema.ne.gov

Nevada Division of Emergency Management
2478 Fairview Dr
Carson City, Nevada 89701
(775) 687-0300

(775) 687-0330FAX
www.dem.state.nv.us/

Governor's Office of Emergency Management
State Office Park South
33 Hazen Dr
Concord, New Hampshire 03305
(603) 271-2231
(603) 271-3609 FAX
www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/bem

New Jersey State Police
New Jersey Office of Emergency Management
P.O. Box 7068, River RD
West Trenton, New Jersey 08628-0068
(609) 882-2000 ext 2700 Monday to Friday
(609) 963-6900 Emergency
(609) 963-6208 Mitigation
(609) 963-6992 State Training Officer
(609) 671-0160 Fax

www.ready.nj.gov

New Mexico Department of Homeland Security
and Emergency Management (DHSEM)
13 Bataan Boulevard
P.O. Box 27111
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
(505) 476-9600
(505) 476-9635 Emergency
(505) 476-9695 FAX
www.nmdhsem.org/

New York State Emergency Management Office
1220 Washington Avenue
Building 22, Suite 101
Albany, New York 12226-2251
(518) 292-2275

(518) 322-4978 FAX
www.semo.state.ny.us/

North Carolina Division of Emergency Management
4713 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4713
(919) 733-3867
(919) 733-5406 FAX
www.ncem.org/

North Dakota Department of Emergency Services
P.O. Box 5511
Bismarck, North Dakota 58506-5511
(701) 328-8100
(701) 328-8181 FAX
www.nd.gov/des

O

Ohio Emergency Management Agency
2855 West Dublin-Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2206
Office: (614) 889-7150
Fax: (614) 889-7183
http://ema.ohio.gov/

Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management
2401 Lincoln Blvd Suite C51
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105
(405) 521-2481
(405) 521-4053 FAX
http://www.ok.gov/OEM/

Oregon Emergency Management
Department of State Police
3225 State St
Salem, Oregon 97309-5062
(503) 378-2911
(503) 373-7833 FAX
www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM/index.shtml

P

Palau NEMO Coordinator
Office of the President

P.O. Box 100
Koror, Republic of Palau 96940
(011)(680) 488-2422
(011)(680) 488-3312

Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
2605 Interstate Drive
Harrisburg PA 17110-9463
(717) 651-2001

(717) 651-2040 FAX
www.pema.state.pa.us/

Puerto Rico Emergency Management Agency
P.O. Box 966597
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00906-6597
(787) 724-0124

(787) 725-4244 FAX
www.gobierno.pr/AEMEAD/Inicio

R

Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency
645 New London Ave
Cranston, Rhode Island 02920-3003
(401) 946-9996
(401) 944-1891 FAX
www.riema.ri.gov

S

South Carolina Emergency Management Division
2779 Fish Hatchery Road
West Columbia South Carolina 29172
(803) 737-8500
(803) 737-8570 FAX
www.scemd.org/

South Dakota Division of Emergency Management
118 West Capitol
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

(605) 773-3231
(605) 773-3580 FAX
www.oem.sd.gov

T

Tennessee Emergency Management Agency
3041 Sidco Drive
Nashville, Tennessee 37204-1502
(615) 741-0001
(615) 242-9635 FAX
www.tnema.org

Texas Division of Emergency Management
5805 N. Lamar
PO BOX 4087
Austin, Texas 78773-0220
(512) 424-2138
(512) 424-2444 or 7160 FAX www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/

U

Utah Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security
1110 State Office Building
P.O. Box 141710
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-1710
(801) 538-3400
(801) 538-3770 FAX
www.des.utah.gov

V

Vermont Emergency Management Agency
Department of Public Safety
Waterbury State Complex
103 South Main Street
Waterbury, Vermont 05671-2101
(802) 244-8721
(800) 347-0488
(802) 244-8655 FAX
www.dps.state.vt.us/vem/

Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management - VITEMA
2-C Contant, A-Q Building
Virgin Islands 00820
(340) 774-2244
(340) 774-1491

Virginia Department of Emergency Management
10501 Trade Court
Richmond, VA 23236-3713
(804) 897-6500
(804) 897-6556 FAX
http://www.vaemergency.com/

W

State of Washington Emergency Management Division
Building 20, M/S: TA-20
Camp Murray, Washington 98430-5122
(253) 512-7000
(800) 562-6108
(253) 512-7200 FAX
www.emd.wa.gov/

West Virginia Office of Emergency Services
Building 1, Room EB-80 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0360
(304) 558-5380
(304) 344-4538 FAX
http://www.dhsem.wv.gov/

Wisconsin Emergency Management
2400 Wright Street
P.O. Box 7865
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7865
Phone: (608) 242-3232
Fax: (608) 242-3247
emergencymanagement.wi.gov/

Wyoming Homeland Security Training Program
1556 Riverbend Drive
Douglas WY 82633
(307) 358-1920
(307) 358-0994 FAX
wyohomelandsecurity.state.wy.us

INITIAL DISASTER PLANNING QUESTIONS CONT.

- ❑ What are the risks for my local area to be affected?
- ❑ What is my communities disaster response plan, evacuation plan, and designated emergency shelters?
- ❑ What routes and destinations in different directions can I travel if I have to evacuate with my family? Ensure you have multiple places to go in an emergency.
- ❑ What are two escape routes from each room of my house?
- ❑ What are the best escape routes in my house if the main exit is blocked?
- ❑ Am I certified in CPR or Self Aid Buddy Care, and do I have sufficient First Aid skills to help a brother or sister if he or she is severely injured?
- ❑ What are safest and most dangerous areas of my house?
- ❑ Do I have a 90 day supply of food stored in a clean safe area?
- ❑ What plan do I have in place if my family members are in separate areas of the city or country?
- ❑ What short to long-term living accommodations do I have in place if my house is damaged so badly I cannot live in it?

MAKE A DISASTER PLAN

- ❑ **Meet with Your Family Members.** Review the information you gathered about community hazards and plans. Explain the dangers to children and work with them as a team to prepare your family. Be sure to include caregivers in your meeting and planning efforts.

- ❑ **Choose an "Out-of-Town" Contact.** Ask an out-of-town friend or relative to be your contact. Following a disaster, family members should call this person and tell them where they are. Everyone must know the contact's phone numbers. After a disaster, it is often easier to make a long distance call than a local call from a disaster area.

- ❑ **Decide Where to Meet.** In the event of an emergency, you may become separated from family members. Choose a place right outside your home in case of a sudden emergency, like a fire. Choose a location outside your neighborhood in case you can't return home.

- ❑ **Complete a Family Communication Plan.** Your plan should include contact information for family members, work and school. Your plan should also include information for your out-of-town contact, meeting locations, emergency services and the National Poison Control Center (1-800-222-1222). Emergency contact cards and an emergency plan form are located at the end of this chapter; tools that can be effectively utilized in emergency family communication planning. Once laminated the contact cards recorded contact information can be carried in a wallet, purse, backpack, etc., for quick reference.

  Teach your children how to call the emergency phone numbers and when it is appropriate to do so. Be sure each family member has a copy of your communication plan and post it near your telephone for use in an emergency.

- ❑ **Escape Routes and Safe Places.** In a fire or other emergency, you may need to evacuate on a moment's notice. Be ready to get out fast. Be sure everyone in your family knows the best escape routes out of your home as well as where the safe places are in your home for each type of disaster (i.e., if a tornado approaches, go to the basement or the lowest floor of your home or an interior room or closet with no windows).

- ❑ **Plan for those with disabilities and other special needs.** Keep support items in a designated place, so they can be found quickly. For those who have home-health caregivers, particularly for those who are bed-bound, it is essential to have an alternate plan if the home-health caregiver cannot make it to you. In advance, provide the power company with a list of all power-dependent life support equipment required by family members. Develop a contingency plan that includes an alternate power source for the equipment or relocating the person.

- ❑ **Prepare for different hazards.** Include in your plan how to prepare for each hazard that could impact your local community and how to protect yourself. For instance, the actions you would take to protect yourself from a tornado are different from those you would for a fire.

Other Important Phone Numbers & Information:

Family Communications Plan

Contact Name:

Telephone:

Out-of-State Contact Name:

Telephone:

Neighborhood Meeting Place:

Meeting Place Telephone:

Dial 9-1-1 for Emergencies!

Other Important Phone Numbers & Information:

Family Communications Plan

Contact Name:

Telephone:

Out-of-State Contact Name:

Telephone:

Neighborhood Meeting Place:

Meeting Place Telephone:

Dial 9-1-1 for Emergencies!

Other Important Phone Numbers & Information:

Family Communications Plan

Contact Name:

Telephone:

Out-of-State Contact Name:

Telephone:

Neighborhood Meeting Place:

Meeting Place Telephone:

Dial 9-1-1 for Emergencies!

Other Important Phone Numbers & Information:

Family Communications Plan

Contact Name:

Telephone:

Out-of-State Contact Name:

Telephone:

Neighborhood Meeting Place:

Meeting Place Telephone:

Dial 9-1-1 for Emergencies!

COPY, CUT OUT, AND LAMINATE CARDS ONCE FILLED IN FOR EACH MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY.

ACTION CHECKLIST
TASKS TO DO BEFORE A DISASTER

Emotional stress is a natural result of any kind of disaster. The state of your mental and physical health depends on how you will deal with any catastrophic event. Panic and fear immobilizes many people. But we as upright, independent and fearless Moslems must stay calm and think! Man is mind. Man is a thought of Allah. Stay focused on Allah and the teachings of his Prophet, Noble Drew Ali. Also keep in your mind the information contained within this packet. Now use what you know, follow these checklists, and act upon it.

❑ **Utilities**

Know how and when to turn off water, gas and electricity at the main switches or valves and share this information with your family and caregivers. Keep any tools you will need near gas and water shut off valves. Turn off the utilities only if you suspect the lines are damaged, you suspect a leak or if local officials instruct you to do so.

❑ **Fire Extinguisher**

Be sure everyone knows how to use your fire extinguishers (ABC type) and where they are kept.

❑ **Smoke Alarms**

Install smoke alarms on each level of your home, especially near the bedrooms. Individuals with sensory disabilities should consider installing smoke alarms that have strobe lights and vibrating pads. Follow local codes and manufacturer's instructions about installation requirements. Also, consider installing a carbon monoxide alarm in your home.

❑ **Insurance Coverage**

Check if you have adequate insurance coverage. Homeowners insurance does not cover flood damage and may not provide full coverage for other hazards. Talk with your insurance agent and make sure you have adequate coverage to protect you family against financial loss.

❑ **First Aid/CPR Classes**

Take American Red Cross first aid and CPR/AED classes. Red Cross courses can accommodate people with disabilities. Discuss your needs when registering for the classes.

❑ **Inventory Home Possessions**

Make a record of your possessions to help you claim reimbursement in case of loss or damage. Store this information in a safe deposit box or other secure (flood/fire/safe) location to ensure the records survive a disaster. Include photographs or video of the interior and exterior of your home as well as cars, boats and recreational vehicles. Also, have photos of durable medical equipment and be sure to make a record of the make and model numbers for each item. Get professional appraisals of jewelry, collectibles, artwork, or other items that may be difficult to evaluate. Make copies of receipts and canceled checks showing the cost for valuable items.

- **Vital Records and Documents**
  Vital family records and other important documents such as birth and marriage certificates, social security cards, passports, wills, deeds, and financial, insurance, and immunizations records should be kept in a safe deposit box or other safe location (fire safe & water proof). Also, copies should be made of each vital record and or document and kept in a separate secure area (parents or trustworthy relatives' house, etc.).

REDUCE HOME HAZARDS

In a disaster, ordinary items in the home can cause injury and damage. Take these steps to reduce your risk.

- Have a professional repair defective electrical wiring and leaky gas connections.
- Place large, heavy objects on lower shelves and hang pictures and mirrors away from beds.
- Use straps or other restraints to secure tall cabinets, bookshelves, large appliances (especially water heater, furnace, and refrigerator), mirrors, shelves, large picture frames, and light fixtures to wall studs.
- Repair cracks in ceilings and foundations.
- Store weed killers, pesticides, and flammable products away from heat sources.
- Place oily rags or waste in covered metal cans and dispose of them according to local regulations.
- Have a professional clean and repair chimneys, flue pipes, connectors, and gas vents.
- Move beds away from windows

ASSEMBLING A DISASTER SUPPLIES KIT

Disasters can strike at a moments notice, and most people will probably not have the time to gather the supplies and food that will be needed. Every household should assemble a disaster supplies kit and keep it up to date. A disaster supplies kit is a collection of ***basic items*** a family would probably need to stay safe and be more comfortable during and after a disaster. Disaster supplies kit items should be stored in a portable container(s) as close as possible to the exit door. Review the contents of your kit at least once per year or as your family needs change. Also, consider having emergency supplies in each vehicle and at your place of employment. Again, the following supply kit is for emergency situations only, when your family only has time to grab those things necessary for survival. The kit should contain supplies necessary for survival from three to seven days.

(NOTE: Tailor your kit to fit your personal needs, but remember not to pack too many items. This is an ***Emergency Kit*** *that a woman, child, or elderly person may have to carry.)*

- ❑ Three- five day supply of nonperishable food and manual can opener.
- ❑ Three- five day supply of water (one gallon of water per person, per day)
- ❑ Portable, battery-powered radio or television and extra batteries
- ❑ Flashlight and extra batteries
- ❑ First aid kit and manual
- ❑ Sanitation and hygiene items (hand sanitizer, moist towelettes, and toilet paper)
- ❑ Matches in waterproof container
- ❑ Whistle
- ❑ Extra clothing and blankets
- ❑ Kitchen accessories and cooking utensils
- ❑ Photocopies of identification and credit cards.
- ❑ Cash and coins (In the event ATM'S or Banks are destroyed or not accessible)
- ❑ Special needs items such as prescription medications, eye glasses, contact lens solution, and

hearing aid batteries.

- ❑ Items for infants, such as formula, diapers, bottles, and pacifiers.
- ❑ Tools, pet supplies, a map of the local area, and other items to meet your unique family needs.
- ❑ Garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- ❑ Dust/filter masks or cotton t-shirts to filter air in the event of a hazardous chemical release, etc.

IF YOU LIVE IN A COLD CLIMATE:

You must think about warmth. It is possible that you will not have heat during or after a disaster. Think about your clothing and bedding needs. Be sure to include one set of the following for each person.

- ❑ Jacket or coat
- ❑ Long pants and long sleeve shirt
- ❑ Sturdy shoes
- ❑ Hat, mittens, and scarf.
- ❑ Sleeping bag or warm blanket

SUPPLIES FOR YOUR VEHICLE INCLUDE:

- ❑ Flashlight, extra batteries, maps.
- ❑ First aid kit and manual.
- ❑ White distress flag.
- ❑ Tire repair kit, booster/jumper cables, pump, and flares.
- ❑ Bottled water and non-perishable foods such as granola bars.
- ❑ Seasonal supplies: Winter-blanket, hat, mittens, shovel, sand, tire chains, windshield scraper, Florescent distress flag
- ❑ Seasonal supplies: Summer- shade items (umbrella, sunglasses, etc.)

EMERGENCY DISASTER EVACUATION

IF YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO EVACUATE

You may be asked to prepare to evacuate if it is vital to your safety. During this time, officials will take actions to engage the emergency and will prepare for an orderly evacuation, if it is needed. An evacuation means that you must leave the area where you live or work to get to a safe place. Stay tuned to your radio and or television for further instructions. An evacuation will be ordered if the region is threatened and there is time to evacuate safely. Make sure that this order applies in your area. Radio and television broadcasts will tell you which parts of the region must evacuate.

- ❑ LISTEN TO THE RADIO OR TELEVISION FOR THE LOCATION OF EMERGENCY SHELTERS AND FOROTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM LOCAL EMERGENCY OFFICIALS WHO ARE LINE WITH THE LAW, AND THE PRINCIPALS OF LOVE, TRUTH, PEACE, FREEDOM AND JUSTICE.

- ❑ WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND STURDY SHOES

- ❑ **TAKE YOUR DISASTER SUPPLIES KIT**

- ❑ USE TRAVEL ROUTES SPECIFIED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND DON'T USE SHORTCUTS BECAUSE CERTAIN AREAS MAY BE IMPASSABLE OR DANGEROUS.

- ❑ ***(ALSO: REFER TO YOUR OWN ALTERANTE ROUTE/LOCATION PLAN)***
  KEEP YOUR VEHICLE IN GOOD CONDITION!!
  (You never know when your vehicle will have to be used for temporary living quarters)

- If you have children in school, they will be taken to the reception center for their school, as detailed in their school's response plan.
- Lock your house. The region where you live will be guarded while you are away.
- Use your own car if you can. Take neighbors who need a ride, if you have room. If you have no ride, ask one of your neighbors for a ride.
- If you cannot do that, go to one of the pickup points along a main road. You can get a ride there.
- Keep all car windows and vents closed and drive (or walk) to the nearest main route in your region.
- Turn on your car radio for news about what to do.
- Authorized persons will be stationed along main routes to direct you away from the unsafe region toward a reception center.
- When safety permits, police will patrol the evacuated regions to prevent looting, damage, etc.
- You may return to your home as soon as the emergency is declared over and it is safe to return.

EARTHQUAKES

An earthquake is a sudden, rapid shaking of the earth caused by the breaking and shifting of rock beneath the earth's surface. Earthquakes strike suddenly, without warning, and can occur at any time of the year; day or night. On a yearly basis, 70 to 75 damaging earthquakes occur throughout the world. Ground movement during an earthquake is seldom the direct cause of death or injury. Most earthquake-related casualties result from collapsing walls, flying glass, and falling objects. Most injuries during earthquakes occur when people are hit by falling objects when entering into or exiting from buildings. While earthquakes are sometimes believed to be a West Coast occurrence, there are actually 45 states and territories throughout the United States that are at moderate to high risk for earthquakes including the New Madrid fault line in Central U.S. The 2011 East Coast earthquake illustrated the fact that it is impossible to predict when or where an earthquake will occur, so it is important that you and your family are prepared ahead of time.

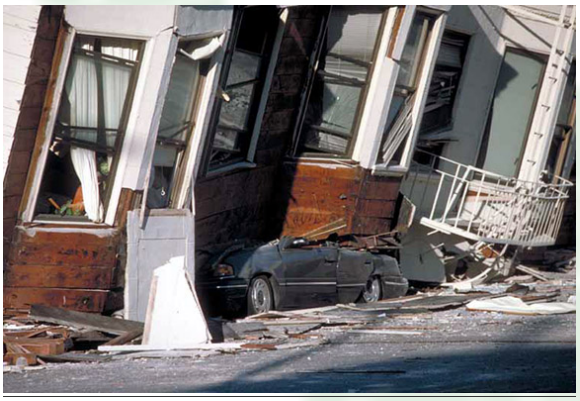
SOME HISTORICAL EARTHQUAKES IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE OF 1906

Founded in 1776, San Francisco remained a small town until gold was discovered in California in 1848. As the gold miners' supply station, San Francisco became a boom town. By 1906 it was one of the nation's major cities with a half-million people. Its location near several of California's many faults, including the San Andreas Fault, made San Francisco prone to earthquakes. Quakes shook the region in 1838. But no one was prepared for what happened in the spring of 1906. At 5:12 am, on April 18, underground rocks broke along the San Andreas Fault just ten miles from San Francisco. A loud roar could be heard as the earth shook for a minute, toppling buildings. Within 15 minutes, dozens of fires were raging in downtown San Francisco. The fires burned for three days and were so intense that reddish smoke was visible to ships 100 miles out at sea. The quake and fires destroyed much of San Francisco. Half the city's residents lost their homes. Many survivors fled San Francisco and never returned, making an accurate casualty count impossible. Although the death toll from the Great San Francisco Earthquake and Fire is often placed at 700, some historians insist that more than 3,000 people died in this disaster.

ALASKA PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND 1964

The second-largest earthquake ever recorded was a magnitude 9.2 in Alaska's Prince William Sound in 1964. That quake caused the ground to shift vertically by as much as 50 feet in places. A 130-acre landslide demolished 75 homes. The resulting tsunami reached heights of 220 feet in places. In all, 128 people lost their lives, most killed by the tsunami, including 11 people in Crescent City, California.



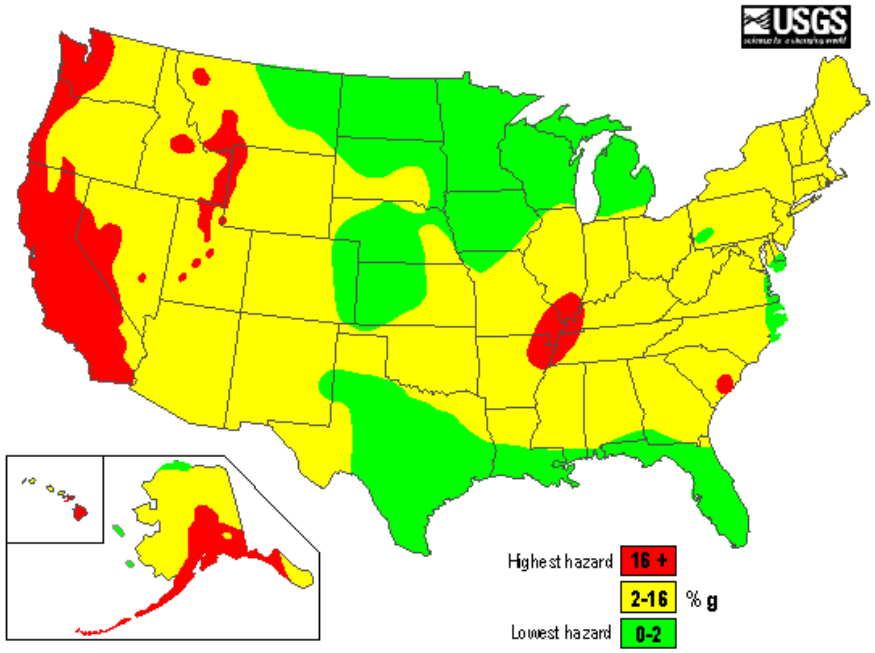
LOMA PRIETA SAN FRANCSICO 1989

The 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake was the largest to strike the San Francisco Bay Area since the 1906 quake. The magnitude 6.9 quake was centered in the Santa Cruz mountains, 60 miles south of San Francisco and Oakland, but still managed to damage $6 billion worth of property and kill 63 people, most of them on a collapsed highway in Oakland. A car is shown crushed by houses in San Francisco.

Figure 3.

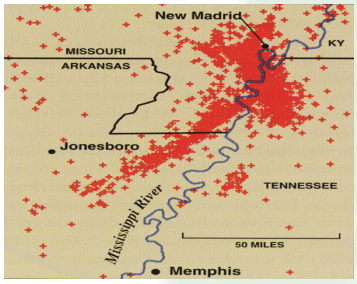
National Seismic Hazard Map

Adapted from http://earthquake.usgs.gov/research/hazmaps/products_data/48_States/index.php



Note:

*"Although we typically think of earthquakes as specific to certain regions such as California, we, in the Midwest, have one of the most active earthquake faults in the country – the **New Madras** fault. The following map shows earthquakes that have been recorded from that fault since 1974."*



*"A series of three to five major earthquakes (magnitude 8 or larger earthquakes) occurred in the **New Madrid Seismic Zone** in the two month period between Dec. 16, 1811 and February 7, 1812. Several thousand additional "smaller" earthquakes occurred during the three month period from Dec. 16, 1811 to March 16, 1812. These included 15 quakes of magnitude 6.5 to 8 (the size range of the 1989 San Francisco, 1994 Los Angeles and 1995 Kobe, Japan earthquakes) and 189 quakes of magnitude 5 to 6.5. Two thousand of these quakes were felt by people, indicated by crude seismograph instruments and recorded in personal journals at Louisville, Kentucky and Cincinnati, Ohio, which are respectively 250 and 350 miles away. The New Madrid area was at the very frontier of European settlement at this time so there were very few non-native Americans living in the immediate area to report the earthquakes.*

Due to the harder, colder, drier and less fractured nature of the rocks in the earth's crust in the central United States, earthquakes in this region shake and damage an area approximately 20 times larger than earthquakes in California and most other active seismic areas. Even though large earthquakes occur much less frequently in the NMSZ than in California, the long term average quake threat, in terms of square miles affected per century, is about the same because of the approximately 20 times larger area affected in the central United States."

Missouri Dept. Nat Resource

BEFORE AN EARTHQUAKE

- ❑ Fasten shelves securely to walls.
- ❑ Place large or heavy objects on lower shelves
- ❑ Store breakable items such as bottled foods, glass, and china in low, closed cabinets with latches.
- ❑ Fasten heavy items such as pictures and mirrors securely to walls and away from beds, couches and anywhere people sit.
- ❑ Brace overhead light fixtures and top heavy objects.
- ❑ Repair defective electrical wiring and leaky gas connections. These are potential fire risks. Get appropriate professional help. Do not work with gas or electrical lines yourself.
- ❑ Install flexible pipe fittings to avoid gas or water leaks. Flexible fittings are more resistant to breakage.
- ❑ Secure your water heater, refrigerator, furnace and gas appliances by strapping them to the wall studs and bolting to the floor. If recommended by your gas company, have an automatic gas shut-off valve installed that is triggered by strong vibrations.
- ❑ Repair any deep cracks in ceilings or foundations. Get expert advice if there are signs of structural defects.
- ❑ Be sure the residence is firmly anchored to its foundation.
- ❑ Store weed killers, pesticides, and flammable products securely in closed cabinets with latches and on bottom shelves.
- ❑ Locate safe spots in each room under a sturdy table or against an inside wall. Reinforce this information by moving to these places during each drill.
- ❑ Hold earthquake drills with your family members: Drop, cover and hold on.

DURING AN EARTHQUAKE

IF INDOORS

- ❑ Drop to the ground; take COVER by getting under a sturdy table or other piece of furniture; and HOLD ON until the shaking stops. If there isn't a table or desk near you, cover your face and head with your arms and crouch in an inside corner of the building.

- ❑ Stay away from glass, windows, outside doors and walls, and anything that could fall, such as lighting fixtures or furniture.

- ❑ Stay in bed if you are there when the earthquake strikes. Hold on and protect your head with a pillow, unless you are under a heavy light fixture that could fall. In that case, move to the nearest safe place.

- ❑ Do not use a doorway except if you know it is strongly supported, load-bearing doorway and it is close to you. Many inside doorways are lightly constructed and do not offer protection.

- ❑ Stay inside until the shaking stops and it is safe to go outside. Do not exit a building during the shaking. Research has shown that most injuries occur when people inside buildings attempt to move to a different location inside the building or try to leave.

- ❑ DO NOT use the elevators.

- ❑ Be aware that the electricity may go out or the sprinkler systems or fire alarms may turn on.

IF OUTDOORS

- ❑ STAY THERE.

- ❑ Move away from buildings, streetlights, and utility wires.

- ❑ Once in the open, stay there until the shaking stops. The greatest danger exists directly outside buildings, at exits and alongside exterior walls. Many of the 120 fatalities from the 1993 Long Beach earthquake occurred when people ran outside of buildings only to be killed by falling debris from collapsing walls. Ground movement during an earthquake is seldom the direct cause of death or injury. Most earthquake-related casualties result from collapsing walls, flying glass, and falling objects.

IF IN A MOVING VEHICLE

- ❑ Stop as quickly as safety permits and stay in the vehicle. Avoid stopping near or under buildings, trees, overpasses, and utility wires.
- ❑ Proceed cautiously once the earthquake has stopped. Avoid roads, bridges, or ramps that might have been damaged by the earthquake.

IF TRAPPED UNDER DEBRIS

- ❑ Do not light a match.
- ❑ Do not move about or kick up dust.
- ❑ Cover your mouth with a handkerchief or clothing.
- ❑ Tap on a pipe or wall so rescuers can locate you. Use a whistle if one is available. Shout only as a last resort. Shouting can cause you to inhale dangerous amounts of dust.

AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE

- ❑ When the shaking stops, look around to make sure it is safe to move. Then exit the building.
- ❑ Expect aftershocks. These secondary shockwaves are usually less violent than the main quake but can be strong enough to do additional damage to weakened structures and can occur in the first hours, days, weeks, or even months after the quake.
- ❑ Help injured or trapped persons. Remember to help your neighbors who may require special assistance such as infants, the elderly and people with access and functional needs. Give first aid where appropriate. Do not move seriously injured persons unless they are in immediate danger of further injury. Call for help.
- ❑ Look for and extinguish small fires. Fire is the most common hazard after an earthquake.
- ❑ Listen to a battery-operated radio or television for the latest emergency information.

- ❑ Be aware of possible tsunamis if you live in coastal areas. These are also known as seismic sea waves (mistakenly called "tidal waves"). When local authorities issue a tsunami warning, assume that a series of dangerous waves is on the way. Stay away from the beach.

- ❑ Use the telephone only for emergency calls.

- ❑ Go to a designed public shelter if your home had been damaged and is no longer safe. Text **SHELTER** + your ZIP code to **43362** (4FEMA) to find the nearest shelter in your area (example: **shelter 12345**)

- ❑ Stay away from damaged areas. Stay away unless your assistance has been specifically requested by police, fire, or relief organizations. Return home only when authorities say it is safe.

- ❑ Be careful when driving after an earthquake and anticipate traffic light outages.

- ❑ After it is determined that its' safe to return, your safety should be your primary priority as you begin clean up and recovery.

- ❑ Open cabinets cautiously. Beware of objects that can fall off shelves.

- ❑ Put on long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, sturdy shoes and work gloves to protect against injury from broken objects.

- ❑ Clean up spilled medicines, bleaches, gasoline or other flammable liquids immediately. Leave the area if you smell gas or fumes from other chemicals.

- ❑ Inspect the entire length of chimneys for damage. Unnoticed damage could lead to a fire.

- ❑ Check for gas leaks. If you smell gas or hear blowing or hissing noise, open a window and quickly leave the building. Turn off the gas at the outside main valve if you can and call the gas company from a neighbors home. If you turn off the gas for any reason, it must be turned back on by a professional.

- ❑ Check for sewage and water lines damage. If you suspect sewage lines are damaged, avoid using the toilets and call a plumber. If water pipes are damaged, contact the water company and avoid using water from the tap. You can obtain safe water by melting ice cubes.

If you require more information about Earthquakes, the following resources may be helpful.

http://www.fema.gov/earthquake-publications/earthquake-publications-individuals-and-families

http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=3260

How to Guides to Protect Your Property or Business from Earthquakes. Available online at http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=3260

HURRICANES

A hurricane is a type of tropical cyclone or severe tropical storm that forms in the southern Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, Gulf of Mexico, and in the eastern Pacific Ocean. A typical cyclone is accompanied by thunderstorms, and in the Northern Hemisphere, a counterclockwise circulation of winds near the earth's surface. All Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coastal areas are subject to hurricanes. Parts of the Southwest United States and the Pacific Coast also experience heavy rains and floods each year from hurricanes spawned off Mexico. The Atlantic hurricane season lasts from June to November, with the peak season from mid-August to late October. The Eastern Pacific hurricane season begins May 15 and ends November 30. Hurricanes can cause catastrophic damage to coastlines and several hundred miles inland. Hurricane can produce winds exceeding 155 miles per hour as well as tornadoes and mircrobursts. Additionally, hurricanes can create storm surges along the coast and cause extensive damage from heavy rainfall. Floods and flying debris from the excessive winds are often the deadly and destructive results of these weather events. Slow moving hurricanes traveling into mountainous regions tend to produce especially heavy rain. Excessive rain can trigger landslides or mud slides. Flash flooding can occur due to intense rainfall.

Between 1970 and 1999, more people lost their lives from freshwater inland flooding associated with tropical cyclones than from any
other weather hazard related to such storms.

BEFORE A HURRICANE

To prepare for a hurricane, you should take the following measures:

- ❑ To begin preparing, you should build an emergency kit and make a family communications plan.
- ❑ Know your surroundings.
- ❑ Learn the elevation level of your property and whether the land is flood-prone. This will help you know how your property will be affected when storm surge or tidal flooding are forecasted.
- ❑ Identify levees and dams in your area and determine whether they pose a hazard to you.
- ❑ Learn community hurricane evacuation routes and how to find higher ground. Determine where

you would go and how you would get there if you needed to evacuate.

- ❑ Make plans to secure your property.
- ❑ Cover all of your home's windows. Permanent storm shutters offer the best protection for windows. A second option is to board up windows with 5/8" marine plywood, cut to fit and ready to install. Tape does not prevent windows from breaking.
- ❑ Install straps or additional clips to securely fasten your roof to the frame structure. This will reduce roof damage.
- ❑ Be sure trees and shrubs around your home are well trimmed so they are more wind resistant.
- ❑ Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- ❑ Reinforce your garage doors; if wind enters a garage it can cause dangerous and expensive structural damage.
- ❑ Plan to bring in all outdoor furniture, decorations, garbage cans and anything else that is not tied down.
- ❑ Determine how and where to secure your boat.
- ❑ Install a generator for emergencies.
- ❑ If in a high-rise building, be prepared to take shelter on or below the 10th floor.
- ❑ Consider building a safe room.

Hurricanes cause heavy rains that can cause extensive flood damage in coastal and inland areas. Everyone is at risk and should consider flood insurance protection. Flood insurance is the only way to financially protect your property or business from flood damage. To learn more about your flooding risk and how to protect yourself and your business, visit the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration (NFIP) Web site, www.floodsmart.gov or call 1-800-427-2419.

For more detailed information on how you can protect your property, view NFIP's printer-friendly handout.

THE SAFFIR-SIMPSON HURRICANE WIND SCALE

CATEGORY ONE HURRICANE
(SUSTAINED WINDS 74-95 MPH, 64-82 KT, OR 119-153 KM/H)

(Very dangerous winds will produce some damage)

People, livestock, and pets struck by flying or falling debris could be injured or killed. Older (mainly pre-1994 construction) mobile homes could be destroyed, especially if they are not anchored properly as they tend to shift or roll off their foundations. Newer mobile homes that are anchored properly can sustain damage involving the removal of shingle or metal roof coverings, and loss of vinyl siding, as well as damage to carports, sunrooms, or lanais. Some poorly constructed frame homes can experience major damage, involving loss of the roof covering and damage to gable ends as well as the removal of porch coverings and awnings. Unprotected windows may break if struck by flying debris. Masonry chimneys can be toppled. Well-constructed frame homes could have damage to roof shingles, vinyl siding, soffit panels, and gutters. Failure of aluminum, screened-in, swimming pool enclosures can occur. Some apartment building and shopping center roof coverings could be partially removed. Industrial buildings can lose roofing and siding especially from windward corners, rakes, and eaves. Failures to overhead doors and unprotected windows will be common. Windows in high-rise buildings can be broken by flying debris. Falling and broken glass will pose a significant danger even after the storm. There will be occasional damage to commercial signage, fences, and canopies. Large branches of trees will snap and shallow rooted trees can be toppled. Extensive damage to power lines and poles will likely result in power outages that could last a few to several days. Hurricane Dolly (2008) is an example of a hurricane that brought Category 1 winds and impacts to South Padre Island, Texas.

CATEGORY TWO HURRICANE
(SUSTAINED WINDS 96-110 MPH, 83-95 KT, OR 154-177 KM/H)

(Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage)

There is a substantial risk of injury or death to people, livestock, and pets due to flying and falling debris. Older (mainly pre-1994 construction) mobile homes have a very high chance of being destroyed and the flying debris generated can shred nearby mobile homes. Newer mobile homes can also be destroyed. Poorly constructed frame homes have a high chance of having their roof structures removed especially if they are not anchored properly. Unprotected windows will have a high probability of being broken by flying debris. Well-constructed frame homes could sustain major roof and siding damage. Failure of aluminum, screened-in, swimming pool enclosures will be common. There will be a substantial percentage of roof and siding damage to apartment buildings and industrial buildings. Unreinforced masonry walls can collapse. Windows in highrise buildings can be broken by flying debris. Falling and broken glass will pose a significant danger even after the storm. Commercial signage, fences, and canopies will be damaged and often destroyed. Many shallowly rooted trees will be snapped or

uprooted and block numerous roads. Near-total power loss is expected with outages that could last from several days to weeks. Potable water could become scarce as filtration systems begin to fail. Hurricane Frances (2004) is an example of a hurricane that brought Category 2 winds and impacts to coastal portions of Port St. Lucie, Florida with Category 1 conditions experienced elsewhere in the city.

CATEGORY THREE HURRICANE
(SUSTAINED WINDS 111-129 MPH, 96-112 KT, OR 178-208KM/H)

(Devastating damage will occur)

There is a high risk of injury or death to people, livestock, and pets due to flying and falling debris. Nearly all older (pre-1994) mobile homes will be destroyed. Most newer mobile homes will sustain severe damage with potential for complete roof failure and wall collapse. Poorly constructed frame homes can be destroyed by the removal of the roof and exterior walls. Unprotected windows will be broken by flying debris. Wellbuilt frame homes can experience major damage involving the removal of roof decking and gable ends. There will be a high percentage of roof covering and siding damage to apartment buildings and industrial buildings. Isolated structural damage to wood or steel framing can occur. Complete failure of older metal buildings is possible, and older unreinforced masonry buildings can collapse. Numerous windows will be blown out of high-rise buildings resulting in falling glass, which will pose a threat for days to weeks after the storm. Most commercial signage, fences, and canopies will be destroyed. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water will be unavailable for several days to a few weeks after the storm passes. Hurricane Ivan (2004) is an example of a hurricane that brought Category 3 winds and impacts to coastal portions of Gulf Shores, Alabama with Category 2 conditions experienced elsewhere in this city.

CATEGORY FOUR HURRICANE
(SUSTAINED WINDS 130-156 MPH, 113-136 KT, OR 209-251 KM/H).

(Catastrophic damage will occur)

There is a very high risk of injury or death to people, livestock, and pets due to flying and falling debris. Nearly all older (pre-1994) mobile homes will be destroyed. A high percentage of newer mobile homes also will be destroyed. Poorly constructed homes can sustain complete collapse of all walls as well as the loss of the roof structure. Well-built homes also can sustain severe damage with loss of most of the roof structure and/or some exterior walls. Extensive damage to roof coverings, windows, and doors will occur. Large amounts of windborne debris will be lofted into the air. Windborne debris damage will break most unprotected windows and penetrate some protected windows. There will be a high percentage of structural damage to the top floors of apartment buildings. Steel frames in older industrial buildings can collapse. There will be a high percentage of collapse to older unreinforced masonry buildings. Most windows will be blown out of high-rise buildings resulting in falling glass, which will pose a threat for days to weeks

after the storm. Nearly all commercial signage, fences, and canopies will be destroyed. Most trees will be snapped or uprooted and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Long-term water shortages will increase human suffering. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months. Hurricane Charley (2004) is an example of a hurricane that brought Category 4 winds and impacts to coastal portions of Punta Gorda, Florida with Category 3 conditions experienced elsewhere in the city.

CATEGORY FIVE HURRICANE

(SUSTAINED WINDS 157 MPH OR HIGHER, 137 KT OR HIGHER, OR 252 KM/H OR HIGHER).

(Catastrophic damage will occur)

People, livestock, and pets are at very high risk of injury or death from flying or falling debris, even if indoors in mobile homes or framed homes. Almost complete destruction of all mobile homes will occur, regardless of age or construction. A high percentage of frame homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Extensive damage to roof covers, windows, and doors will occur. Large amounts of windborne debris will be lofted into the air. Windborne debris damage will occur to nearly all unprotected windows and many protected windows. Significant damage to wood roof commercial buildings will occur due to loss of roof sheathing. Complete collapse of many older metal buildings can occur. Most unreinforced masonry walls will fail which can lead to the collapse of the buildings. A high percentage of industrial buildings and low-rise apartment buildings will be destroyed. Nearly all windows will be blown out of high-rise buildings resulting in falling glass, which will pose a threat for days to weeks after the storm. Nearly all commercial signage, fences, and canopies will be destroyed. Nearly all trees will be snapped or uprooted and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Long-term water shortages will increase human suffering. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months. Hurricane Andrew (1992) is an example of a hurricane that brought Category 5 winds and impacts to coastal portions of Cutler Ridge, Florida with Category 4 conditions experienced elsewhere in south Miami-Dade County.

STORM SURGE

The greatest potential for loss of life related to a hurricane is from the storm surge!
Storm surge is simply water that is pushed toward the shore by the force of the winds swirling around the storm. This advancing surge combines with the normal tides to create the hurricane storm tide, which can increase the mean water level to heights impacting roads, homes and other critical infrastructure. In addition, wind driven waves are superimposed on the storm tide. This rise in water level can cause severe flooding in coastal areas, particularly when the storm tide coincides with the normal high tides. Because much of the United States' densely populated Atlantic and Gulf Coast coastlines lie less than 10 feet above mean sea level, the danger from storm tides is tremendous.
The storm surge combined with wave action can cause extensive damage, severely erode beaches and coastal highways. With major storms like Katrina, Camille and Hugo, complete devastation of coastal communities occurred. Many buildings withstand hurricane force winds until their foundations, undermined by erosion, are weakened and fail.

DURING A HURRICANE

IF A HURRICANE IS LIKELY IN YOUR AREA, YOU SHOULD:

- ❑ Listen to the radio or TV for information.
- ❑ Secure your home, close storm shutters and secure outdoor objects or bring them indoors.
- ❑ Turn off utilities if instructed to do so. Otherwise, turn the refrigerator thermostat to its coldest setting and keep its doors closed.
- ❑ Turn off propane tanks
- ❑ Avoid using the phone, except for serious emergencies.
- ❑ Moor your boat if time permits.
- ❑ Ensure a supply of water for sanitary purpose such as cleaning and flushing toilets. Fill the bathtub and other larger containers with water.
- ❑ Find out how to keep food safe during and after and emergency. You should evacuate under the following conditions: If you are directed by local authorities to do so. Be sure to follow their instructions.
- ❑ If you live in a mobile home or temporary structure – such shelter are particularly hazardous during hurricane no matter how well fastened to the ground.

- ❑ If you live in a high-rise building – hurricane winds are stronger at higher elevations.
- ❑ If you live on the coast, on a floodplain, near a river, or on an island waterway.
- ❑ Read more about evacuating yourself and your family. If you are unable to evacuate, go to your wind-safe room. If you do not have one, follow these guidelines:
- ❑ Stay indoors during the hurricane and away from windows and glass doors.
- ❑ Close all interior doors – secure and brace external doors.
- ❑ Keep curtains and blinds closed. Do not be fooled if there is a lull; it could be the eye of the storm – winds will pick up again.
- ❑ Take refuge in a small interior room, closet or hallway on the lowest level.
- ❑ Lie on the floor under a table or another sturdy object.
- ❑ Avoid elevators.

EVACUATING YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY

PREPARE NOW IN THE EVENT OF AN EVACUATION

Evacuations are more common than many people realize. Fires and floods cause evacuations most frequently across the U.S. and almost every year, people along coastlines evacuate as hurricanes approach. In addition, hundreds of times a year, transportation and industrial accidents release harmful substances, forcing many people to leave their homes. In some circumstances, local officials decide that the hazards are serious and require mandatory evacuations. In others, evacuations are advised or households decide to evacuate to avoid situations they believe are potentially dangerous. When community evacuations become necessary local officials provide information to the public through the media. In some circumstances, other warning methods, such as sirens, text alerts, emails or telephone calls are used. The amount of time you have to leave will depend on the hazard. If the event is a weather condition, such as a hurricane, you might have a day or two to get ready. However, many disasters allow no time for people to gather even the most basic necessities, which is why planning ahead is essential.

Plan how you will assemble your family and supplies and anticipate where you will go for different situations. Choose several destinations in different directions so you have options in an emergency and know the evacuation routes to get to those destinations.

EVACUATION GUIDELINES

There may be conditions under which you will decide to get away or there may be situations when you are ordered to leave. Follow these guidelines for evacuation:

- ❑ Plan places where your family will meet, both within and outside of your immediate neighborhood. Use the Family Emergency Plan to decide these locations before a disaster.

- ❑ If you have a car, keep a full tank of gas in it if an evacuation seems likely. Keep a half tank of gas in it at all times in case of an unexpected need to evacuate. Gas stations may be closed during emergencies and unable to pump gas during power outages. Plan to take one car per family to reduce congestion and delay.

- ❑ Become familiar with alternate routes and other means of transportation out of your area. Choose several destinations in different directions so you have options in an emergency.
- ❑ Leave early enough to avoid being trapped by severe weather.
- ❑ Follow recommended evacuation routes. Do not take shortcuts; they may be blocked.
- ❑ Be alert for road hazards such as washed-out roads or bridges and downed power lines. Do not drive into flooded areas.
- ❑ If you do not have a car, plan how you will leave if you have to. Make arrangements with family, friends or your local government.
- ❑ Take your emergency supply kit unless you have reason to believe it has been contaminated.
- ❑ Listen to a battery-powered radio and follow local evacuation instructions.
- ❑ Take your pets with you, but understand that only service animals may be permitted in public shelters. Plan how you will care for your pets in an emergency.

IF TIME ALLOWS:

- ❑ Call or email the out-of-state contact in your family communications plan. Tell them where you are going.
- ❑ Secure your home by closing and locking doors and windows.
- ❑ Unplug electrical equipment such as radios, televisions and small appliances. Leave freezers and refrigerators plugged in unless there is a risk of flooding. If there is damage to your home and you are instructed to do so, shut off water, gas and electricity before leaving.
- ❑ Leave a note telling others when you left and where you are going.
- ❑ Wear sturdy shoes and clothing that provides some protection such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts and a cap.
- ❑ Check with neighbors who may need a ride.

AFTER A HURRICANE

- ❑ Continue listening to a NOAA Weather Radio or the local news for the latest updates.
- ❑ Stay alert for extended rainfall and subsequent flooding even after the hurricane or tropical storm has ended.
- ❑ If you have become separated from your family, use your family communications plan or contact the American Red Cross at 1-800-RED-CROSS/1-800-733-2767 or visit the American Red Cross Safe and Well site: www.safeandwell.org
- ❑ The American Red Cross also maintains a database to help you find family. Contact the local American Red Cross chapter where you are staying for information. Do not contact the chapter in the disaster area.
- ❑ If you evacuated, return home only when officials say it is safe.
- ❑ If you cannot return home and have immediate housing needs. Text **SHELTER** + your ZIP code to **43362** (4FEMA) to find the nearest shelter in your area (example: ***shelter 12345***).
- ❑ For those who have longer-term housing needs, FEMA offers several types of assistance, including services and grants to help people repair their homes and find replacement housing. Apply for assistance or search for information about housing rental resources.
- ❑ Drive only if necessary and avoid flooded roads and washed¬ out bridges. Stay off the streets. If you must go out watch for fallen objects; downed electrical wires; and weakened walls, bridges, roads, and sidewalks.
- ❑ Keep away from loose or dangling power lines and report them immediately to the power company.
- ❑ Walk carefully around the outside your home and check for loose power lines, gas leaks and structural damage before entering.
- ❑ Stay out of any building if you smell gas, floodwaters remain around the building or your home was damaged by fire and the authorities have not declared it safe.
- ❑ Inspect your home for damage. Take pictures of damage, both of the building and its contents, for insurance purposes. If you have any doubts about safety, have your residence inspected by a qualified building inspector or structural engineer before entering.

If you require more information about any of these topics, the following resources may be helpful.

Against the Wind: Protecting your Home from Hurricane and Wind Damage
http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=1641

Protect Your Property from High Winds
http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=3263

FLOODS

Floods are one of the most common hazards in the United States, however not all floods are alike. Some floods develop slowly, while others such a flash floods, can develop in just a few minutes and without visible signs of rain. Additionally, floods can be local, impacting a neighborhood or community, or very large, affecting entire river basins and multiple states.

Flash floods can occur within a few minutes or hours of excessive rainfall, a dam or levee failure, or a sudden release of water held by an ice jam. Flash floods often have a dangerous wall of roaring water carrying rocks, mud and other debris. Overland flooding, the most common type of flooding event typically occurs when waterways such as rivers or streams overflow their banks as a result of rainwater or a possible levee breach and cause flooding in surrounding areas. It can also occur when rainfall or snowmelt exceeds the capacity of underground pipes, or the capacity of streets and drains designed to carry flood water away from urban areas.

Be aware of flood hazards no matter where you live or work, but especially if you are in low-lying areas, near water, behind a levee or downstream from a dam. Even very small streams, gullies, creeks, culverts, dry streambeds or low-lying ground that appear harmless in dry weather can flood.

CAUSES OF FLOODS

TROPICAL STORMS AND HURRICANES - Hurricanes pack a triple punch: high winds, soaking rain, and flying debris. They can cause storm surges to coastal areas, as well as create heavy rainfall, which in turn causes flooding hundreds of miles inland. While all coastal areas are at risk, certain cities are particularly vulnerable and could have losses similar to or even greater than those caused by the 2005 hurricane, Katrina, in New Orleans and Mississippi.

When hurricanes weaken into tropical storms, they generate rainfall and flooding that can be especially damaging since the rain collects in one place. In 2001, Tropical Storm Allison produced more than 30 inches of rainfall in Houston in just a few days, flooding over 70,000 houses and destroying 2,744 homes.

SPRING THAW - During the spring, frozen land prevents melting snow or rainfall from seeping into the ground. Each cubic foot of compacted snow contains gallons of water and once the snow melts, it can result in the overflow of streams, rivers, and lakes. Add spring storms to that and the result is often serious spring flooding.

HEAVY RAINS - Several areas of the country are at heightened risk for flooding due to heavy rains. The Northwest is at high risk due to La Niña conditions, which include snowmelts and heavy rains. And the Northeast is at high risk due to heavy rains produced from Nor'easters. This excessive amount of rainfall can happen throughout the year, putting your property at risk.

WEST COAST THREATS - Although floods can occur throughout the year, the West Coast rainy season usually lasts from November to April. This window increases the chance of heavy flooding and flash flood risks.

Wildfires have dramatically changed the landscape and ground conditions on the West Coast, causing fire-scorched land to develop in to mudflows under heavy rain. Experts believe it will take years for the vegetation to be fully restored, which in turn will help stabilize these areas.

In addition to the heavy rains and wildfires, the West Coast has thousands of miles of levees, which were constructed to help protect homes and land in case of a flood. However, levees are not fail-proof and can, weaken, or overtop when waters rise, often causing catastrophic results.

LEVEES AND DAMS - Levees are designed to protect hold back a certain level of water. However, levees can and do fail; and when they fail, they can fail catastrophically. Weakening of levees over time, or as a result of weather events exceeding the levee's level of support, can cause the levee to be overtopped or breached, thus increasing the chance for flooding. Homeowners and renters insurance policies usually do not cover flood loss, therefore FEMA strongly encourages those who live and work behind levees to consider flood insurance as a dependable financial security from a flood event

FLASH FLOODS - Flash floods are the #1 weather-related killer in the U.S. since they can roll boulders, tear out trees, and destroy buildings and bridges. A flash flood is a rapid flooding of low-lying areas in less than six hours, which is caused by intense rainfall from a thunderstorm or several thunderstorms. Flash floods can also occur from the collapse of a man-made structure or ice dam.

NEW DEVELOPMENT - Construction and development can change the natural drainage and create brand new flood risks. That's because new buildings, parking lots, and roads mean less land to absorb excess precipitation from heavy rains, hurricanes, and tropical storms.

POINTS TO REMEMBER DRIVING IN FLOOD CONDITIONS

- Six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars causing loss of control and possible stalling.
- A foot of water will float many vehicles
- Two feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles including sport utility vehicles (SUV's) and pick-ups.
- Do not attempt to drive through a flooded road. The depth of water is not always obvious. The road bed may be washed out under the water, and you could be stranded or trapped.
- Do not drive around a barricade. Barricades are there for your protection. Turn around and go the other way.
- Do not try to take short cuts. They may be blocked. Stick to designated evacuation routes.
- Be especially cautious driving at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers.

BEFORE A FLOOD

What would you do if your property were flooded? Are you prepared?

Even if you feel you live in a community with a low risk of flooding, remember that anywhere it rains, it can flood. Just because you haven't experienced a flood in the past, doesn't mean you won't in the future. Flood risk isn't just based on history; its also based on a number of factors including rainfall, topography, flood-control measures, river-flow and tidal-surge data, and changes due to new construction and development.

TO PREPARE FOR A FLOOD YOU SHOULD:

- ❑ Build an emergency kit and make a family communications plan.
- ❑ Avoid building a floodplain unless you elevate and reinforce your home.
- ❑ Elevate the furnace, water heater and electric panel in your home if you live in an area that has a high flood risk.
- ❑ Consider installing "check valves" to prevent flood water from backing up into the drains of your home.
- ❑ If feasible, construct barriers to stop floodwater from entering the building and seal walls in *basements with waterproofing compounds*

DURING A FLOOD

IF A FLOOD IS LIKELY IN YOUR AREA YOU SHOULD:

- ❑ Listen to the radio or television for information.
- ❑ Be aware that flash flooding can occur. If there is any possibility of a flash flood, move immediately to higher ground. Do not wait for instructions to move.
- ❑ Be aware of stream, drainage channels, canyons and other areas known to flood suddenly. Flash floods can occur in these areas with or without typical warnings such as rain clouds or heavy rain.

IF YOU MUST PREPARE TO EVACUATE, YOU SHOULD DO THE FOLLOWING:

- ❑ Secure your home. If you have time, bring in outdoor furniture. Move essential items to an upper floor.
- ❑ Turn off utilities at the main switches or valves if instructed to do so. Disconnect electrical appliances. Do not touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water.

HOUSE NATURAL GAS SHUT OFF

Natural gas leaks and explosions are responsible for a significant number of fires following disasters. It is vital that all household members know how to shut off natural gas.

Because there are different gas shut-off procedures for different gas meter configurations, it is important to contact your local gas company for any guidance on preparations and response regarding gas appliances and gas service to your home.

When you learn the proper shut-off procedure for your meter, share the information with everyone in your household. Be sure not to actually turn off the gas when practicing the proper gas shut-off procedures.

If you smell gas or hear a blowing or hissing noise, open a window and get everyone out quickly. Turn off the gas, using the outside main valve, if you can, and call the gas company from a neighbor's home.

*Caution: If you turn off the gas for any reason, a qualified professional must turn it back on. NEVER attempt to turn the gas back on yourself.

HOUSE WATER SHUT OFF

Water quickly becomes a precious resource following many disasters. It is vital that all household members learn how to shut off the water at the main house valve.

Before an emergency happens, locate the shut-off valve for the water line that enters your house and label this valve with a tag for easy identification. Make sure all household members know where it is located.

Make sure this valve can be completely shut off. Your valve may be rusted open or it may only partially close. If so, replace it.

Cracked lines may pollute the water supply to your house. It is wise to shut off your water until you hear from authorities that it is safe for drinking.

The effects of gravity may drain the water in your hot water heater and toilet tanks unless you trap it in your house by shutting off the main house valve. (This is not the street valve in the cement box at the curb – the street valve is extremely difficult to turn and requires a special tool.)

HOUSE ELECTRICITY SHUT OFF

Electrical sparks have the potential of igniting natural gas if it is leaking. It is wise to teach all responsible household members where and how to shut off the electricity.

Locate you electrical circuit box. For your safety, always shut off all the individual circuits before shutting off the main circuit.

IF YOU LEAVE YOUR HOME, YOU SHOULD REMEMBER THESE EVACUATION TIPS:

- ❑ Do not walk through moving water. Six inches of moving water can make you fall. If you have to walk in water, walk where the water is not moving. Use a stick to check the firmness of the ground in front of you.
- ❑ Do not drive into flooded areas. If floodwaters rise around your car, abandon the car and move to higher ground if you can do so safely. You and the vehicle can be swept away quickly.
- ❑ Do not camp or park your vehicle along streams, rivers or creeks, particularly during threatening conditions.

AFTER THE FLOOD

Your home has been flooded. Although floodwaters may be down in some areas, many dangers still exist. Here are some things to remember in the days ahead:

- ❑ Use local alerts and warning systems to get information and expert informed advice as soon as available.
- ❑ Avoid moving water.
- ❑ Stay away from damaged areas unless your assistance has been specifically requested by police, fire, or relief organization.
- ❑ Emergency workers will be assisting people in flooded areas. You can help them by staying off the roads and out of the way.

- ❑ Play it safe. Additional flooding or flash floods can occur. Listen for local warnings and information. If your car stalls in rapidly rising waters, get out immediately and climb to higher ground.
- ❑ Return home only when authorities indicate it is safe.
- ❑ Roads may still be closed because they have been damaged or are covered by water. Barricades have been placed for your protection. If you come upon a barricade or a flooded road, go another way.
- ❑ If you must walk or drive in areas that have been flooded.
- ❑ Stay on firm ground. Moving water only 6 inches deep can sweep you off your feet. Standing water may be electrically charged from underground or downed power lines.
- ❑ Flooding may have caused familiar places to change. Floodwaters often erode roads and walkways. Flood debris may hide animals and broken bottles, and it's also slippery. Avoid walking or driving through it.
- ❑ Be aware of areas where floodwaters have receded. Roads may have weakened and could collapse under the weight of a car.
- ❑ Stay out of any building if it is surrounded by floodwaters.
- ❑ Use extreme caution when entering buildings; there may be hidden damage, particularly in foundations.

STAYING HEALTHY

A flood can cause physical hazards and emotional stress. You need to look after yourself and your family as you focus on cleanup and repair.

- ❑ Avoid floodwaters; water may be contaminated by oil, gasoline or raw sewage.
- ❑ Service damaged septic tanks, cesspools, pits and leaching systems as soon as possible. Damaged sewer systems are serious health hazards.
- ❑ Listen for news reports to learn whether the community's water supply is safe to drink.
- ❑ Clean and disinfect everything that got wet. Mud left from floodwaters can contain sewage and chemicals.

- ❑ Rest often and eat well.
- ❑ Keep a manageable schedule. Make a list and do jobs one at a time.
- ❑ Discuss your concerns with others and seek help. Contact Red Cross for information on emotional support available in your area.

CLEANING UP AND REPAIRING YOUR HOME

- ❑ Turn off the electricity at the main breaker or fuse box, even if the power is off in your community. That way, you can decide when your home is dry enough to turn it back on.
- ❑ Get a copy of the book Repairing Your Flooded Home (737KB PDF) which is available free from the American Red Cross or your state or local emergency manager. It will tell you:
- ❑ How to enter your home safely.
- ❑ How to protect your home and belongings from further damage.
- ❑ How to record damage to support insurance claims and requests for assistance.
- ❑ How to check for gas or water leaks and how to have service restored.
- ❑ How to clean up appliances, furniture, floors and other belongings.
- ❑ The Red Cross can provide you with a cleanup kit: mop, broom, bucket, and cleaning supplies.
- ❑ Contact your insurance agent to discuss claims.
- ❑ Listen to your radio for information on assistance that may be provided by the state or federal government or other organizations.
- ❑ If you hire cleanup or repair contractors, check references and be sure they are qualified to do the job. Be wary of people who drive through neighborhoods offering help in cleaning up or repairing your home.

For More information and Free Publications on Floods go to:
http://www.ready.gov/floods
Click on the Tabs - Spring Flooding: Tools & Resources
& More Information

HOUSE FIRES

Fire is the most likely disaster that you and your family may encounter. Fire is the fourth leading killer in the U.S. behind motor vehicle accidents, falls, and drowning. 84% of fires are accidental, such as those caused by poor electrical wiring or careless behavior. Smoke alarms and CO2 detectors should be installed on every level of your residence, outside bedrooms on the ceiling or high on the wall, at the top of open stairways, or at the bottom of enclosed stairs, and near (but not in) the kitchen.

Smoke alarms and CO2 detectors should be tested and cleaned once a month and the batteries should be replaced once a year.Do not overload extension cords or outlets. If you need to plug in two or more appliances, get a UL-approved unit with a built-in circuit breaker. Make sure outlets have cover plates. Install A-B-C type fire extinguishers in your home and teach family members how to use them.

FIRE IS FAST!

There is little time! In less than 30 seconds a small flame can get completely out of control and turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for thick black smoke to fill a house or for it to be engulfed in flames. Most deadly fires occur in the home when people are asleep. If you wake up to a fire, you won't have time to grab valuables because fire spreads too quickly and the smoke is too thick. There is only time to escape.

FIRE IS HOT!

Heat is more threatening than flames. A fire's heat alone can kill. Room temperatures in a fire can be 100 degrees at floor level and rise to 600 degrees at eye level. Inhaling this super-hot air will scorch your lungs. This heat can melt clothes to your skin. In five minutes, a room can get so hot that everything in it ignites at once: this is called flashover.

FIRE IS DARK!

Fire isn't bright, it's pitch black. Fire starts bright, but quickly produces black smoke and complete darkness. If you wake up to a fire you may be blinded, disoriented and unable to find your way around the home you've lived in for years.

FIRE IS DEADLY!

Smoke and toxic gases kill more people than flames do. Fire uses up the oxygen you need and produces smoke and poisonous gases that kill. Breathing even small amounts of smoke and toxic gases can make you drowsy, disoriented and short of breath. The odorless, colorless fumes can lull you into a deep sleep before the flames reach your door. You may not wake up in time to escape.

Only when we know the true nature of fire can we prepare our families and ourselves.

BEFORE A FIRE

CREATE AND PRACTICE A FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

In the event of a fire, remember that every second counts, so you and your family must always be prepared. Escape plans help you get out of your home quickly.

Twice each year, practice your home fire escape plan. Some tips to consider when preparing this plan include:

- ❑ Find two ways to get out of each room.
- ❑ If the primary way is blocked by fire or smoke, you will need a second way out. A secondary route might be a window onto a neighboring roof or a collapsible ladder for escape from upper story windows.
- ❑ Only purchase collapsible ladders evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratory (UL).
- ❑ Make sure that windows are not stuck, screens can be taken out quickly, and that security bars can be properly opened.
- ❑ Practice feeling your way out of the house in the dark or with your eyes closed.
- ❑ Windows and doors with security bars must have quick release devices to allow them to be opened immediately in an emergency. Make sure everyone in the family understands and practices how to properly operate and open locked or barred doors and windows.
- ❑ Teach children not to hide from firefighters.

SMOKE ALARMS

A properly installed and maintained smoke alarm is the only thing in your home that can alert you and your family to a fire 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A working smoke alarm significantly increases your chances of surviving a deadly home fire.

- ❑ Install both ionization AND photoelectric smoke alarms, OR dual sensor smoke alarms, which contain both ionization and photoelectric smoke sensors.
- ❑ Test batteries monthly.
- ❑ Replace batteries in battery-powered and hard-wired smoke alarms at least once a year (except non-replaceable 10-year lithium batteries)
- ❑ Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, including the basement. The U.S. Fire Administration recommends installing smoke alarms both inside and outside of sleeping areas.
- ❑ Always follow the manufacturer's installation instructions when installing smoke alarms.
- ❑ Replace the entire smoke alarm unit every 8-10 years or according to manufacturer's instructions.
- ❑ Never disable a smoke alarm while cooking – it can be a deadly mistake. Open a window or door and press the "hush" button, wave a towel at the alarm to clear the air, or move the entire alarm several feet away from the location.

SMOKE ALARM SAFETY PEOPLE WITH ACCESS OR FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

- ❑ Caregivers are encouraged to check the smoke alarms of those who are unable to do it themselves.
- ❑ Audible alarms for visually impaired people should pause with a small window of silence between each successive cycle so that they can listen to instructions or voices of others.
- ❑ Smoke alarms with a vibrating pad or flashing light are available for the hearing impaired. Contact your local fire department for information about obtaining a flashing or vibrating smoke alarm.
- ❑ Smoke alarms with a strobe light outside the home to catch the attention of neighbors, and emergency call systems for summoning help, are also available.

DURING A FIRE

- ❑ Crawl low under any smoke to your exit - heavy smoke and poisonous gases collect first along the ceiling.
- ❑ When the smoke alarm sounds, get out fast. You may have only seconds to escape safely.
- ❑ If there is smoke blocking your door or first way out, use your second way out.
- ❑ Smoke is toxic. If you must escape through smoke, get low and go under the smoke to your way out.
- ❑ Before opening a door, feel the doorknob and door. If either is hot, leave the door closed and use your second way out.
- ❑ If there is smoke coming around the door, leave the door closed and use your second way out.
- ❑ If you open a door, open it slowly. Be ready to shut it quickly if heavy smoke or fire is present.
- ❑ If you can't get to someone needing assistance, leave the home and call 9-1-1 or the fire department. Tell the emergency operator where the person is located.
- ❑ If pets are trapped inside your home, tell firefighters right away.
- ❑ If you can't get out, close the door and cover vents and cracks around doors with cloth or tape to keep smoke out. Call 9-1-1 or your fire department. Say where you are and signal for help at the window with a light-colored cloth or a flashlight.
- ❑ If your clothes catch fire, stop, drop, and roll – stop immediately, drop to the ground, and cover your face with your hands. Roll over and over or back and forth until the fire is out. If you or someone else cannot stop, drop, and roll, smother the flames with a blanket or towel. Use cool water to treat the burn immediately for 3 to 5 minutes. Cover with a clean, dry cloth. Get medical help right away by calling 9-1-1 or the fire department.

ESCAPING THE FIRE

- ❑ Make sure windows are not nailed or painted shut. Make sure security gratings on windows have a fire safety opening feature so they can be easily opened from the inside.
- ❑ Consider escape ladders if your residence has more than one level, and ensure that burglar bars and other antitheft mechanisms that block outside window entry are easily opened from the inside.
- ❑ Teach family members to stay low to the floor (where the air is safer in a fire) when escaping from a fire.
- ❑ Clean out storage areas. Do not let trash such as old newspapers and magazines accumulate.

FIRE ESCAPE PLANNING FOR OLDER ADULTS AND PEOPLE ACCESS OR FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

- ❑ Live near an exit. You'll be safest on the ground floor if you live in an apartment building. If you live in a multi-story home, arrange to sleep on the ground floor, and near an exit.
- ❑ If you use a walker or wheelchair, check all exits to be sure you get through the doorways.
- ❑ Make any necessary accommodations, such as providing exit ramps and widening doorways, to facilitate an emergency escape.
- ❑ Speak to your family members, building manager, or neighbors about your fire safety plan and practice it with them.
- ❑ Contact your local fire department's non-emergency line and explain your special needs. Ask emergency providers to keep your special needs information on file.
- ❑ Keep a phone near your bed and be ready to call 911 or your local emergency number if a fire occurs.

AFTER A FIRE

Recovering from a fire can be a physically and mentally draining process. When fire strikes, lives are suddenly turned around. Often, the hardest part is knowing where to begin and who to contact.

The following checklist serves as a quick reference and guide for you to follow after a fire strikes.

- ❑ Contact your local disaster relief service, such as The Red Cross, if you need temporary housing, food and medicines.
- ❑ If you are insured, contact your insurance company for detailed instructions on protecting the property, conducting inventory and contacting fire damage restoration companies. If you are not insured, try contacting private organizations for aid and assistance.
- ❑ Check with the fire department to make sure your residence is safe to enter. Be watchful of any structural damage caused by the fire.
- ❑ The fire department should see that utilities are either safe to use or are disconnected before they leave the site. DO NOT attempt to reconnect utilities yourself.
- ❑ Conduct an inventory of damaged property and items. Do not throw away any damaged goods until after an inventory is made.
- ❑ Try to locate valuable documents and records. Refer to information on contacts and the replacement process inside this brochure.
- ❑ If you leave your home, contact the local police department to let them know the site will be unoccupied.
- ❑ Begin saving receipts for any money you spend related to fire loss. The receipts may be needed later by the insurance company and for verifying losses claimed on income tax.
- ❑ Notify your mortgage company of the fire.
- ❑ Check with an accountant or the Internal Revenue Service about special benefits for people recovering from fire loss.

PREVENT HOME FIRES

Most home fires occur in the kitchen while cooking and are the leading cause of injuries from fire. Common causes of fires at night are carelessly discarded cigarettes, sparks from fireplaces without spark screens or glass doors, and heating appliances left too close to furniture or other combustibles. These fires can be particularly dangerous because they may smolder for a long period before being discovered by sleeping residents.

Home fires are preventable! The following are simple steps that each of us can take to prevent a tragedy.

COOKING

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking.
- Do not cook if you are sleepy, have been drinking alcohol, or have taken medicine that makes you drowsy.
- Keep children away from cooking areas by enforcing a "kid-free zone" of 3 feet around the stove.
- Position barbecue grills at least 10 feet away from siding and deck railings, and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.

SMOKING

- If you smoke, smoke outside. Most home fires caused by smoking materials start inside the home. Put your cigarettes out in a can filled with sand.
- Make sure cigarettes and ashes are out. The cigarette really needs to be completely stubbed out in an ashtray. Soak cigarette butts and ashes in water before throwing them away. Never toss hot cigarette butts or ashes in the trash can.
- Check for cigarette butts. Chairs and sofas catch on fire fast and burn fast. Don't put ashtrays on them. If people have been smoking in the home, check for cigarettes under cushions.
- Never smoke in a home where oxygen is used, even if it is turned off. Oxygen can be explosive and makes fire burn hotter and faster.
- Be alert - don’t smoke in bed! If you are sleepy, have been drinking, or have taken medicine that makes you drowsy, put your cigarette out first.

ELECTRICAL AND APPLIANCE SAFETY

- Frayed wires can cause fires. Replace all worn, old or damaged appliance cords immediately and do not run cords under rugs or furniture.
- Buy electrical products evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters

Laboratories (UL).

- If an appliance has a three-prong plug, use it only in a three-slot outlet. Never force it to fit into a two-slot outlet or extension cord.

- Use electrical extension cords wisely; never overload extension cords or wall sockets. Immediately shut off, then professionally replace, light switches that are hot to the touch and lights that flicker.

PORTABLE SPACE HEATERS

- Keep combustible objects at least three feet away from portable heating devices. Buy only heaters evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

- Check to make the portable heater has a thermostat control mechanism, and will switch off automatically if the heater falls over.

- Check with your local fire department on the legality of kerosene heater use in your community. Only use crystal clear K-1 kerosene in kerosene heaters. Never overfill it. Use the heater in a well-ventilated room.

FIREPLACES AND WOODSTOVES

- Inspect and clean woodstove pipes and chimneys annually and check monthly for damage or obstructions. Never burn trash, paper, or green wood.

- Use a fireplace screen heavy enough to stop rolling logs and big enough to cover the entire opening of the fireplace to catch flying sparks.

- Make sure the fire is completely out before leaving the house or going to bed. Store cooled ashes in a tightly sealed metal container outside the home.

CHILDREN

- Take the mystery out of fire play by teaching children that fire is a tool, not a toy. Store matches and lighters out of children's reach and sight, preferably in a locked cabinet. Teach children not to pick up matches or lighters they may find. Instead, they should tell an adult immediately. Never leave children unattended near operating stoves or burning candles, even for a short time. Check under beds and in closets for burned matches, evidence your child may be playing with fire.

MORE PREVENTION TIPS

- Avoid using lighted candles. Never use the range or oven to heat your home.

- Replace mattresses made before the 2007 Federal Mattress Flammability Standard. Mattresses made since then are required by law to be safer.

- Keep combustible and flammable liquids away from heat sources. Always refuel portable generators outdoors. For more information on what you should do after a home fire, including valuing your property, replacing documents, and salvage hints, visit the U.S. Fire Administration's website.

WILDFIRES

More and more people are making their homes in woodland settings – in or near forests, rural areas, or remote mountain sites. There, homeowners enjoy the beauty of the environment but face the very real danger of wildfire. Every year across our Nation, some homes survive - while many others do not - after a major wildfire. Those that survive almost always do so because their owners had prepared for the eventuality of fire, which is an inescapable force of nature in fire-prone wildland areas. Said in another way - if it's predictable, it's preventable! Wildfires often begin unnoticed. These fires are usually triggered by lightning or accidents. They spread quickly, igniting brush, trees, and homes. Reduce your risk by preparing now - before wildfire strikes. Meet with your family to decide what to do and where to go if wildfires threaten your area. Follow the steps listed below to protect your family, home, and property

BEFORE A WILDFIRE

The following are things you can do to protect yourself, your family and your family in the event of a fire.

To begin preparing, you should build an emergency kit and make a family communications plan.
The following are things you can do to protect yourself, your family and your property in the event of a fire.

- ❑ To begin preparing, you should build an emergency kit and make a family communications plan.
- ❑ Design and landscape your home with wildfire safety in mind. Select materials and plants that can help contain fire rather than fuel it.
- ❑ Use fire-resistant or noncombustible materials on the roof and exterior structure of the dwelling, or treat wood or combustible material used in roofs, siding, decking or trim with fire-retardant chemicals evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
- ❑ Plant fire-resistant shrubs and trees. For example, hardwood trees are less flammable than pine,

evergreen, eucalyptus or fir trees.

- ❑ Regularly clean roof and gutters.
- ❑ Inspect chimneys at least twice a year. Clean them at least once a year. Keep the dampers in good working order. Equip chimneys and stovepipes with a spark arrester that meets the requirements of National Fire Protection Association Standard 211. (Contact your local fire department for exact specifications.)
- ❑ Use 1/8-inch mesh screen beneath porches, decks, floor areas, and the home itself. Also, screen openings to floors, roof and attic.
- ❑ Install a dual-sensor smoke alarm on each level of your home, especially near bedrooms; test monthly and change the batteries at least once each year.
- ❑ Teach each family member how to use a fire extinguisher (ABC type) and show them where it's kept.
- ❑ Keep handy household items that can be used as fire tools: a rake, axe, handsaw or chain saw, bucket and shovel.
- ❑ Keep a ladder that will reach the roof.
- ❑ Consider installing protective shutters or heavy fire-resistant drapes.
- ❑ Clear items that will burn from around the house, including wood piles, lawn furniture, barbecue grills, tarp coverings, etc. Move them outside of your defensible space.

PLAN YOUR WATER NEEDS

- ❑ Identify and maintain an adequate outside water source such as a small pond, cistern, well, swimming pool, or hydrant.
- ❑ Have a garden hose that is long enough to reach any area of the home and other structures on the property.
- ❑ Install freeze-proof exterior water outlets on at least two sides of the home and near other structures on the property. Install additional outlets at least 50 feet from the home.
- ❑ Consider obtaining a portable gasoline powered pump in case electrical power is cut off.

Your best resource for proper planning is www.firewise.org which has outstanding information used daily by residents, property owners, fire departments, community planners, builders, public policy officials, water authorities, architects and others to assure safety from fire - it really works. Firewise workshops are offered for free all across the nation in communities large and small and free Firewise materials can be obtained easily by anyone interested.

PREPARING YOUR HOME FOR A WILDFIRE

It is recommended that you create a 30 to 100 foot safety zone around your home. Within this area, you can take steps to reduce potential exposure to flames and radiant heat. Homes built in pine forests should have a minimum safety zone of 100 feet. If your home sits on a steep slope, standard protective measures may not suffice. Contact your local fire department or forestry office for additional information.

- ❑ Rake leaves, dead limbs and twigs. Clear all flammable vegetation.
- ❑ Remove leaves and rubbish from under structures.
- ❑ Thin a 15-foot space between tree crowns, and remove limbs within 15 feet of the ground.
- ❑ Remove dead branches that extend over the roof.
- ❑ Prune tree branches and shrubs within 15 feet of a stovepipe or chimney outlet.
- ❑ Ask the power company to clear branches from powerlines.
- ❑ Remove vines from the walls of the home.
- ❑ Mow grass regularly.
- ❑ Clear a 10-foot area around propane tanks and the barbecue. Place a screen over the grill - use nonflammable material with mesh no coarser than one-quarter inch.
- ❑ Regularly dispose of newspapers and rubbish at an approved site. Follow local burning regulations
- ❑ Place stove, fireplace and grill ashes in a metal bucket, soak in water for 2 days; then bury the cold ashes in mineral soil.
- ❑ Store gasoline, oily rags and other flammable materials in approved safety cans. Place cans in a

safe location away from the base of buildings.

- ❑ Stack firewood at least 100 feet away and uphill from your home. Clear combustible material within 20 feet.
- ❑ Use only wood-burning devices evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
- ❑ Review your homeowner's insurance policy and also prepare/update a list of your home's contents.

PRACTICE WILDFIRE SAFETY

- ❑ People start most wildfires - find out how you can promote and practice wildfire safety.
- ❑ Contact your local fire department, health department, or forestry office for information on fire laws.
- ❑ Make sure that fire vehicles can get to your home. Clearly mark all driveway entrances and display your name and address.
- ❑ Report hazardous conditions that could cause a wildfire.
- ❑ Teach children about fire safety. Keep matches out of their reach.
- ❑ Post fire emergency telephone numbers.
- ❑ Ensure adequate accessibility by large fire vehicles to your property.
- ❑ Plan several escape routes away from your home - by car and by foot.
- ❑ Talk to your neighbors about wildfire safety. Plan how the neighborhood could work together after a wildfire. Make a list of your neighbors' skills such as medical or technical. Consider how you could help neighbors who have special needs such as elderly or disabled persons. Make plans to take care of children who may be on their own if parents can't get home.

FOLLOW LOCAL BURNING LAWS

- ❑ Before burning debris in a wooded area, make sure you notify local authorities and obtain a burning permit.
- ❑ Use an approved incinerator with a safety lid or covering with holes no larger than ¾ inch.
- ❑ Create at least a 10-foot clearing around the incinerator before burning debris.
- ❑ Have a fire extinguisher or garden hose on hand when burning debris.

DURING A WILDFIRE

If advised to evacuate, do so immediately. Take your disaster supply kit, lock your home and choose a route away from the fire hazard. Watch for changes in the speed and direction of the fire and smoke. Tell someone when you left and where you are going.

If you see a wildfire and haven't recieved evacuation orders yet, call 9-1-1. Don't assume that someone else has already called. Describe the location of the fire, speak slowly and clearly, and answer any questions asked by the dispatcher.

If you are not ordered to evacute, and have time to prepare your home, FEMA recommends you take the following actions:

- ❑ Arrange temporary housing at a friend or relative's home outside the threatened area in case you need to evacuate.
- ❑ Wear protective clothing when outside – sturdy shoes, cotton or woolen clothes, long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, gloves and a handkerchief to protect your face.
- ❑ Gather fire tools such as a rake, axe, handsaw or chainsaw, bucket and shovel.
- ❑ Close outside attic, eaves and basement vents, windows, doors, pet doors, etc. Remove flammable drapes and curtains.
- ❑ Close all shutters, blinds or heavy non-combustible window coverings to reduce radiant heat.
- ❑ Close all doors inside the house to prevent draft. Open the damper on your fireplace, but close the fireplace screen.
- ❑ Shut off any natural gas, propane or fuel oil supplies at the source.

- ❑ Connect garden hoses to outdoor water faucet and fill any pools, hot tubs, garbage cans, tubs or other large containers with water.
- ❑ Place lawn sprinklers on the roof and near above-ground fuel tanks. Leave sprinklers on and dowsing these structures as long as possible.
- ❑ If you have gas-powered pumps for water, make sure they are fueled and ready.
- ❑ Place a ladder against the house in clear view.
- ❑ Disconnect any automatic garage door openers so that doors can still be opened by hand if the power goes out. Close all garage doors.
- ❑ Place valuable papers, mementos and anything "you can't live without" inside the car in the garage, ready for quick departure. Any pets still with you should also be put in the car.
- ❑ Place valuables that will not be damaged by water in a pool or pond.
- ❑ Move flammable furniture into the center of the residence away from the windows and sliding-glass doors.
- ❑ Turn on outside lights and leave a light on in every room to make the house more visible in heavy smoke.

SURVIVING A WILDFIRE

SURVIVAL IN A VEHICLE

- ❑ This is dangerous and should only be done in an emergency, but you can survive the firestorm if you stay in your car. It is much less dangerous than trying to run from a fire on foot.
- ❑ Roll up windows and close air vents. Drive slowly with headlights on. Watch for other vehicles and pedestrians. Do not drive through heavy smoke.
- ❑ If you have to stop, park away from the heaviest trees and brush. Turn headlights on and ignition off. Roll up windows and close air vents.
- ❑ Get on the floor and cover up with a blanket or coat.

- ❑ Stay in the vehicle until the main fire passes.

- ❑ Stay in the car. Do not run! Engine may stall and not restart. Air currents may rock the car. Some smoke and sparks may enter the vehicle. Temperature inside will increase. Metal gas tanks and containers rarely explode.

IF YOU ARE TRAPPED AT HOME

- ❑ If you do find yourself trapped by wildfire inside your home, stay inside and away from outside walls. Close doors, but leave them unlocked. Keep your entire family together and remain calm.

IF CAUGHT IN THE OPEN

- ❑ The best temporary shelter is in a sparse fuel area. On a steep mountainside, the back side is safer. Avoid canyons, natural "chimneys" and saddles.

- ❑ If a road is nearby, lie face down along the road cut or in the ditch on the uphill side. Cover yourself with anything that will shield you from the fire's heat.

- ❑ If hiking in the back country, seek a depression with sparse fuel. Clear fuel away from the area while the fire is approaching and then lie face down in the depression and cover yourself. Stay down until after the fire passes!

AFTER A WILDFIRE

The following are guidelines for different circumstances in the period following a fire:

- ❑ Go to a designated public shelter if you have been told to evacuate or you feel it is unsafe to remain in your home. Text **SHELTER** + your ZIP code to **43362** (4FEMA) to find the nearest shelter in your area (example: ***shelter 12345***).

- ❑ If you are with burn victims, or are a burn victim yourself, call 9-1-1 or seek help immediately; cool and cover burns to reduce chance of further injury or infection.

- ❑ If you remained at home, check the roof immediately after the fire danger has passed. Put out any roof fires, sparks or embers. Check the attic for hidden burning sparks.

- ❑ For several hours after the fire, maintain a "fire watch." Re-check for smoke and sparks throughout the house.

- ❑ If you have evacuated, do not enter your home until fire officials say it is safe.
- ❑ If a building inspector has placed a color-coded sign on the home, do not enter it until you get more information, advice and instructions about what the sign means and whether it is safe to enter your home.
- ❑ If you must leave your home because a building inspector says the building is unsafe, ask someone you trust to watch the property during your absence.
- ❑ Use caution when entering burned areas as hazards may still exist, including hot spots, which can flare up without warning.
- ❑ If you detect heat or smoke when entering a damaged building, evacuate immediately.
- ❑ If you have a safe or strong box, do not try to open it. It can hold intense heat for several hours. If the door is opened before the box has cooled, the contents could burst into flames.
- ❑ Avoid damaged or fallen power lines, poles and downed wires.
- ❑ Watch for ash pits and mark them for safety—warn family and neighbors to keep clear of the pits also.
- ❑ Watch animals closely and keep them under your direct control. Hidden embers and hot spots could burn your pets' paws or hooves.
- ❑ Follow public health guidance on safe cleanup of fire ash and safe use of masks.
- ❑ Wet debris down to minimize breathing dust particles.
- ❑ Wear leather gloves and heavy soled shoes to protect hands and feet.
- ❑ Cleaning products, paint, batteries and damaged fuel containers need to be disposed of properly to avoid risk.
- ❑ Discard any food that has been exposed to heat, smoke or soot.
- ❑ Do **NOT** use water that you think may be contaminated to wash dishes, brush teeth, prepare food, wash hands, make ice or make baby formula.

WINTER STORMS & EXTREME COLD

While the danger from winter weather varies across the country, nearly all Americans, regardless of where they live, are likely to face some type of severe winter weather at some point in their lives. Winter storms can range from a moderate snow over a few hours to a blizzard with blinding, wind-driven snow that lasts for several days. Many winter storms are accompanied by dangerously low temperatures and sometimes by strong winds, icing, sleet and freezing rain.

One of the primary concerns is the winter weather's ability to knock out heat, power and communications services to your home or office, sometimes for days at a time. Heavy snowfall and extreme cold can immobilize an entire region.

The National Weather Service refers to winter storms as the “Deceptive Killers” because most deaths are indirectly related to the storm. Instead, people die in traffic accidents on icy roads and of hypothermia from prolonged exposure to cold. It is important to be prepared for winter weather before it strikes.

BEFORE WINTER STORMS AND EXTREME COLD

To prepare for a winter storm you should do the following: Before winter approaches, add the following supplies to your emergency kit:

- ❑ Rock salt or more environmentally safe products to melt ice on walkways. Visit the ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY for a complete list of recommended products.
- ❑ Sand to improve traction.
- ❑ Snow shovels and other snow removal equipment.

- ❑ Sufficient heating fuel. You may become isolated in your home and regular fuel sources may be cut off. Store a good supply of dry, seasoned wood for your fireplace or wood-burning stove.
- ❑ Adequate clothing and blankets to keep you warm.
- ❑ Make a Family Communications Plan. Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to know how you will contact one another, how you will get back together and what you will do in case of an emergency.
- ❑ Listen to a NOAA Weather Radio or other local news channels for critical information from the National Weather Service (NWS). Be alert to changing weather conditions.
- ❑ Minimize travel. If travel is necessary, keep a disaster supplies kit in your vehicle.
- ❑ Bring pets/companion animals inside during winter weather. Move other animals or livestock to sheltered areas with non-frozen drinking water.

WINTERIZE YOUR VEHICLE

Check or have a mechanic check the following items on your car:

- ❑ **Antifreeze levels** - ensure they are sufficient to avoid freezing.
- ❑ **Battery and ignition system** - should be in top condition and battery terminals should be clean.
- ❑ **Brakes** - check for wear and fluid levels.
- ❑ **Exhaust system** - check for leaks and crimped pipes and repair or replace as necessary. Carbon monoxide is deadly and usually gives no warning.
- ❑ **Fuel and air filters** - replace and keep water out of the system by using additives and maintaining a full tank of gas. A full tank will keep the fuel line from freezing.
- ❑ **Heater and defroster** - ensure they work properly.
- ❑ **Lights and flashing hazard lights** - check for serviceability.

- ❑ **Oil** - check for level and weight. Heavier oils congeal more at low temperatures and do not lubricate as well.
- ❑ **Thermostat** - ensure it works properly.
- ❑ **Windshield wiper equipment** - repair any problems and maintain proper washer fluid level.
- ❑ **Install good winter tires** - Make sure the tires have adequate tread. All-weather radials are usually adequate for most winter conditions. However, some jurisdictions require that to drive on their roads, vehicles must be equipped with chains or snow tires with studs.

UPDATE THE EMERGENCY KITS IN YOUR VEHICLES WITH:

- ❑ shovel
- ❑ windshield scraper and small broom
- ❑ flashlight
- ❑ battery powered radio
- ❑ extra batteries
- ❑ water
- ❑ snack food
- ❑ matches
- ❑ extra hats, socks and mittens
- ❑ first aid kit with pocket knife
- ❑ necessary medications
- ❑ blanket(s)
- ❑ tow chain or rope

- ❑ road salt and sand
- ❑ booster cables
- ❑ emergency flares
- ❑ fluorescent distress flag

WINTERIZE YOUR HOME

- ❑ Winterize your home to extend the life of your fuel supply by insulating walls and attics, caulking and weather-stripping doors and windows, and installing storm windows or covering windows with plastic.
- ❑ Winterize your house, barn, shed or any other structure that may provide shelter for your family, neighbors, livestock or equipment. Clear rain gutters; repair roof leaks and cut away tree branches that could fall on a house or other structure during a storm.
- ❑ Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected every year.
- ❑ Insulate pipes with insulation or newspapers and plastic and allow faucets to drip a little during cold weather to avoid freezing. Running water, even at a trickle, helps prevent pipes from freezing.
- ❑ All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside and kept clear.
- ❑ Keep fire extinguishers on hand, and make sure everyone in your house knows how to use them. House fires pose an additional risk, as more people turn to alternate heating sources without taking the necessary safety precautions.
- ❑ Learn how to shut off water valves (in case a pipe bursts).
- ❑ Insulate your home by installing storm windows or covering windows with plastic from the inside to keep cold air out.
- ❑ Hire a contractor to check the structural ability of the roof to sustain unusually heavy weight from the accumulation of snow - or water, if drains on flat roofs do not work.

DURING WINTER STORMS AND EXTREME COLD

- ❑ Stay indoors during the storm.
- ❑ Walk carefully on snowy, icy, walkways.
- ❑ Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow. Overexertion can bring on a heart attack—a major cause of death in the winter. If you must shovel snow, stretch before going outside.
- ❑ Keep dry. Change wet clothing frequently to prevent a loss of body heat. Wet clothing loses all of its insulating value and transmits heat rapidly.
- ❑ Watch for signs of frostbite. These include loss of feeling and white or pale appearance in extremities such as fingers, toes, ear lobes, and the tip of the nose. If symptoms are detected, get medical help immediately.
- ❑ Watch for signs of hypothermia. These include uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness, and apparent exhaustion. If symptoms of hypothermia are detected, get the victim to a warm location, remove wet clothing, warm the center of the body first and give warm, non-alcoholic beverages if the victim is conscious. Get medical help as soon as possible.
- ❑ Drive only if it is absolutely necessary. If you must drive: travel in the day; don't travel alone; keep others informed of your schedule; stay on main roads and avoid back road shortcuts.
- ❑ Let someone know your destination, your route, and when you expect to arrive. If your car gets stuck along the way, help can be sent along your predetermined route.
- ❑ If the pipes freeze, remove any insulation or layers of newspapers and wrap pipes in rags. Completely open all faucets and pour hot water over the pipes, starting where they were most exposed to the cold (or where the cold was most likely to penetrate).
- ❑ Maintain ventilation when using kerosene heaters to avoid build-up of toxic fumes. Refuel kerosene heaters outside and keep them at least three feet from flammable objects.
- ❑ Conserve fuel, if necessary, by keeping your residence cooler than normal. Temporarily close off heat to some rooms.
- ❑ If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a

temperature no lower than 55ºF.

DRESS FOR COLD WEATHER

- ❑ If you must go outside, wear several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing. The outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent.
- ❑ Wear mittens, which are warmer than gloves.
- ❑ Wear a hat. A hat will prevent loss of body heat.
- ❑ Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs.

STRANDED IN A VEHICLE

IF A BLIZZARD TRAPS YOU IN THE CAR:

- ❑ Pull off the highway. Turn on hazard lights and hang a distress flag from the radio antenna or window.
- ❑ Remain in your vehicle where rescuers are most likely to find you. Do not set out on foot unless you can see a building close by where you know you can take shelter. Be careful; distances are distorted by blowing snow. A building may seem close, but be too far to walk to in deep snow.
- ❑ Run the engine and heater about 10 minutes each hour to keep warm. When the engine is running, open a downwind window slightly for ventilation and periodically clear snow from the exhaust pipe. This will protect you from possible carbon monoxide poisoning.
- ❑ Exercise to maintain body heat, but avoid overexertion. In extreme cold, use road maps, seat covers, and floor mats for insulation. Huddle with passengers and use your coat for a blanket.
- ❑ Take turns sleeping. One person should be awake at all times to look for rescue crews.
- ❑ Eat regularly and drink ample fluids to avoid dehydration, but avoid caffeine and alcohol.
- ❑ Be careful not to waste battery power. Balance electrical energy needs - the use of lights, heat, and radio - with supply.

- ❑ Turn on the inside light at night so work crews or rescuers can see you.
- ❑ If stranded in a remote area, stomp large block letters in an open area spelling out HELP or SOS and line with rocks or tree limbs to attract the attention of rescue personnel who may be surveying the area by airplane.
- ❑ Leave the car and proceed on foot - if necessary - once the blizzard passes.

AFTER WINTER STORMS AND EXTREME COLD

- ❑ Go to a designated public shelter if your home loses power or heat during periods of extreme cold. Text **SHELTER** + your ZIP code to **43362** (4FEMA) to find the nearest shelter in your area (example: ***shelter 12345***).
- ❑ Continue to protect yourself from frostbite and hypothermia by wearing warm, loose-fitting, lightweight clothing in several layers. Stay indoors, if possible.

TSUNAMIS

Tsunamis (pronounced soo-ná-mees), also known as seismic sea waves (mistakenly called "tidal waves"), are a series of enormous waves created by an underwater disturbance such as an earthquake, landslide, volcanic eruption, or meteorite. A tsunami can move hundreds of miles per hour in the open ocean and smash into land with waves as high as 100 feet or more.

From the area where the tsunami originates, waves travel outward in all directions. Once the wave approaches the shore, it builds in height. The topography of the coastline and the ocean floor will influence the size of the wave. There may be more than one wave and the succeeding one may be larger than the one before. That is why a small tsunami at one beach can be a giant wave a few miles away.

All tsunamis are potentially dangerous, even though they may not damage every coastline they strike. A tsunami can strike anywhere along most of the U.S. coastline. The most destructive tsunamis have occurred along the coasts of California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Hawaii.

Earthquake-induced movement of the ocean floor most often generates tsunamis. If a major earthquake or landslide occurs close to shore, the first wave in a series could reach the beach in a few minutes, even before a warning is issued. Areas are at greater risk if they are less than 25 feet above sea level and within a mile of the shoreline. Drowning is the most common cause of death associated with a tsunami. Tsunami waves and the receding water are very destructive to structures in the run-up zone. Other hazards include flooding, contamination of drinking water, and fires from gas lines or ruptured tanks.

TSUNAMI HAZARD TERMS

Familiarize yourself with these terms to help identify a tsunami hazard:

WARNING

A tsunami warning is issued when a tsunami with the potential to generate widespread inundation is imminent or expected. Warnings alert the public that dangerous coastal flooding accompanied by powerful currents is possible and may continue for several hours after initial arrival. Warnings alert emergency management officials to take action for the entire tsunami hazard zone. Appropriate actions to be taken by local officials may include the evacuation of low-lying coastal areas, and the repositioning of ships to deep waters when there is time to safely do so. Warnings may be updated, adjusted geographically, downgraded, or canceled. To provide the earliest possible alert, initial warnings

are normally based only on seismic information.

ADVISORY

A tsunami advisory is issued when a tsunami with the potential to generate strong currents or waves dangerous to those in or very near the water is imminent or expected. The threat may continue for several hours after initial arrival, but significant inundation is not expected for areas under an advisory. Appropriate actions to be taken by local officials may include closing beaches, evacuating harbors and marinas, and the repositioning of ships to deep waters when there is time to safely do so. Advisories are normally updated to continue the advisory, expand/contract affected areas, upgrade to a warning, or cancel the advisory.

WATCH

A tsunami watch is issued to alert emergency management officials and the public of an event which may later impact the watch area. The watch area may be upgraded to a warning or advisory - or canceled - based on updated information and analysis. Therefore, emergency management officials and the public should prepare to take action. Watches are normally issued based on seismic information without confirmation that a destructive tsunami is underway.

INFORMATION STATEMENT

A tsunami information statement is issued to inform emergency management officials and the public that an earthquake has occurred, or that a tsunami warning, watch or advisory has been issued for another section of the ocean. In most cases, information statements are issued to indicate there is no threat of a destructive tsunami and to prevent unnecessary evacuations as the earthquake may have been felt in coastal areas. An information statement may, in appropriate situations, caution about the possibility of destructive local tsunamis. Information statements may be re-issued with additional information, though normally these messages are not updated. However, a watch, advisory or warning may be issued for the area, if necessary, after analysis and/or updated information becomes available.

BEFORE A TSUNAMI

The following are things you can do to protect yourself, your family and your property from the effects of a tsunami:

- ❑ To begin preparing, you should build an emergency kit and make a family communications plan.
- ❑ Talk to everyone in your household about what to do if a tsunami occurs. Create and practice an evacuation plan for your family. Familiarity may save your life. Be able to follow your escape route at night and during inclement weather. You should be able to reach your safe location on foot within 15 minutes. Practicing your plan makes the appropriate response more of a reaction, requiring less thinking during an actual emergency.
- ❑ If the school evacuation plan requires you to pick your children up from school or from another location. Be aware telephone lines during a tsunami watch or warning may be overloaded and

routes to and from schools may be jammed.

- ❑ Knowing your community's warning systems and disaster plans, including evacuation routes.
- ❑ Know the height of your street above sea level and the distance of your street from the coast or other high-risk waters. Evacuation orders may be based on these numbers.
- ❑ If you are a tourist, familiarize yourself with local tsunami evacuation protocols. You may be able to safely evacuate to the third floor and higher in reinforced concrete hotel structures.
- ❑ If an earthquake occurs and you are in a coastal area, turn on your radio to learn if there is a tsunami warning.

DURING A TSUNAMI

- ❑ Follow the evacuation order issued by authorities and evacuate immediately. Take your animals with you.
- ❑ Move inland to higher ground immediately. Pick areas 100 feet (30 meters) above sea level or go as far as 2 miles (3 kilometers) inland, away from the coastline. If you cannot get this high or far, go as high or far as you can. Every foot inland or upward may make a difference.
- ❑ Stay away from the beach. Never go down to the beach to watch a tsunami come in. If you can see the wave you are too close to escape it. CAUTION - If there is noticeable recession in water away from the shoreline this is nature's tsunami warning and it should be heeded. You should move away immediately.
- ❑ Save yourself - not your possessions.
- ❑ Remember to help your neighbors who may require special assistance - infants, elderly people, and individuals with access or functional needs.

AFTER A TSUNAMI

- ❑ Return home only after local officials tell you it is safe. A tsunami is a series of waves that may continue for hours. Do not assume that after one wave the danger is over. The next wave may be larger than the first one.
- ❑ Go to a designated public shelter if you have been told to evacuate or you feel it is unsafe to

remain in your home. Text **SHELTER** + your ZIP code to **43362** (4FEMA) to find the nearest shelter in your area (example: ***shelter 12345***).

- ❑ Avoid disaster areas. Your presence might interfere with emergency response operations and put you at further risk from the residual effects of floods.
- ❑ Stay away from debris in the water; it may pose a safety hazard to people or pets.
- ❑ Check yourself for injuries and get first aid as needed before helping injured or trapped persons.
- ❑ If someone needs to be rescued, call professionals with the right equipment to help. Many people have been killed or injured trying to rescue others.
- ❑ Help people who require special assistance—infants, elderly people, those without transportation, people with access and functional needs and large families who may need additional help in an emergency situation.
- ❑ Continue using a NOAA Weather Radio or tuning to a Coast Guard station or a local radio or television station for the latest updates.
- ❑ Stay out of any building that has water around it. Tsunami water can cause floors to crack or walls to collapse.
- ❑ Use caution when re-entering buildings or homes. Tsunami-driven floodwater may have damaged buildings where you least expect it. Carefully watch every step you take.
- ❑ To avoid injury, wear protective clothing and be cautious when cleaning up.

TORNADOS

Tornadoes are nature's most violent storms. Spawned from powerful thunderstorms, tornadoes can cause fatalities and devastate a neighborhood in seconds. A tornado appears as a rotating, funnel-shaped cloud that extends from a thunderstorm to the ground with whirling winds that can reach 300 miles per hour. Damage paths can be in excess of one mile wide and 50 miles long. Every state is at some risk from this hazard. Some tornadoes are clearly visible, while rain or nearby low-hanging clouds obscure others. Occasionally, tornadoes develop so rapidly that little, if any, advance warning is possible. Before a tornado hits, the wind may die down and the air may become very still. A cloud of debris can mark the location of a tornado even if a funnel is not visible. Tornadoes generally occur near the trailing edge of a thunderstorm. It is not uncommon to see clear, sunlit skies behind a tornado.

TORNADO FACTS

QUICK FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT TORNADOES:

- ❑ They may strike quickly, with little or no warning.
- ❑ They may appear nearly transparent until dust and debris are picked up or a cloud forms in the funnel. The average tornado moves Southwest to Northeast, but tornadoes have been known to move in any direction.
- ❑ The average forward speed of a tornado is 30 mph, but may vary from stationary to 70 mph.
- ❑ Tornadoes can accompany tropical storms and hurricanes as they move onto land.
- ❑ Waterspouts are tornadoes that form over water.
- ❑ Tornadoes are most frequently reported east of the Rocky Mountains during spring and summer months.
- ❑ Peak tornado season in the southern states is March through May; in the northern states, it is late spring through early summer.

- ❑ Tornadoes are most likely to occur between 3 pm and 9 pm, but can occur at any time.

BUILDING A SAFE ROOM

Extreme windstorms in many parts of the country pose a serious threat to buildings and their occupants. Your residence may be built "to code" but that does not mean it can withstand winds from extreme events such as tornadoes and major hurricanes. The purpose of a safe room or a wind shelter is to provide a space where you and your family can seek refuge that provides a high level of protection. You can build a safe room in one of several places in your home:

- ❑ Your basement
- ❑ Atop a concrete slab-on-grade foundation or garage floor.
- ❑ An interior room on the first floor.

Safe rooms built below ground level provide the greatest protection, but a safe room built in a first-floor interior room also can provide the necessary protection. Below-ground safe rooms must be designed to avoid accumulating water during the heavy rains that often accompany severe windstorms. To protect its occupants, a safe room must be built to withstand high winds and flying debris, even if the rest of the residence is severely damaged or destroyed. Consider the following when building a safe room:

- ❑ The safe room must be adequately anchored to resist overturning and uplift.
- ❑ The walls, ceiling and door of the shelter must withstand wind pressure and resist penetration by windborne objects and falling debris.
- ❑ The connections between all parts of the safe room must be strong enough to resist the wind.

Sections of either interior or exterior residence walls that are used as walls of the safe room must be separated from the structure of the residence so that damage to the residence will not cause damage to the safe room.

Additional information about Safe Rooms available from FEMA:

- *Taking Shelter from the Storm: Building a Safe Room Inside Your House.* FEMA L-233. Brochure providing details about obtaining information about how to build a wind-safe room to withstand tornado, hurricane and other high winds.
- *Taking Shelter from the Storm: Building a Safe Room Inside Your House*. FEMA L-320. Manual with detailed information about how to build a wind-safe room to withstand tornado, hurricane and other high winds.

BEFORE A TORNADO

- ❑ To begin preparing, you should build an emergency kit and make a family communications plan.
- ❑ Listen to NOAA Weather Radio or to commercial radio or television newscasts for the latest information. In any emergency, always listen to the instructions given by local emergency management officials.
- ❑ Be alert to changing weather conditions. Look for approaching storms.
- ❑ Look for the following danger signs:
- ❑ Dark, often greenish sky
- ❑ Large hail
- ❑ A large, dark, low-lying cloud (particularly if rotating)
- ❑ Loud roar, similar to a freight train.
- ❑ If you see approaching storms or any of the danger signs, be prepared to take shelter immediately.

DURING A TORNADO

If you are under a tornado warning, seek shelter immediately! Most injuries associated with high winds are from flying debris, so remember to protect your head.

IF YOU ARE IN:	THEN:
A structure (e.g. residence, small building, school, nursing home, hospital, factory, shopping center, high-rise building)	• Go to a pre-designated shelter area such as a safe room, basement, storm cellar, or the lowest building level. If there is no basement, go to the center of an interior room on the lowest level (closet, interior hallway) away from corners, windows, doors, and outside walls. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside. Get under a sturdy table and use your arms to protect your head and neck. • In a high-rise building, go to a small interior room or hallway on the lowest floor possible. • Put on sturdy shoes. • Do not open windows.
A trailer or mobile home	• Get out immediately and go to the lowest floor of a sturdy, nearby building or a storm shelter. Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes.
The outside with no shelter	• Immediately get into a vehicle, buckle your seat belt and try to drive to the closest sturdy shelter. • If your vehicle is hit by flying debris while you are driving, pull over and park. • Stay in the car with the seat belt on. Put your head down below the windows; cover your head with your hands and a blanket, coat or other cushion if possible. • If you can safely get noticeably lower than the level of the roadway, leave your car and lie in that area, covering your head with your hands • Do not get under an overpass or bridge. You are safer in a low, flat location. • Never try to outrun a tornado in urban or congested areas in a car or truck. Instead, leave the vehicle immediately for safe shelter. • Watch out for flying debris. Flying debris from tornadoes causes most fatalities and injuries.

AFTER A TORNADO

Injury may result from the direct impact of a tornado or it may occur afterward when people walk among debris and enter damaged buildings. A study of injuries after a tornado in Marion, Illinois, showed that 50 percent of the tornado related injuries were suffered during rescue attempts, cleanup and other post-tornado activities. Nearly a third of the injuries resulted from stepping on nails. Because tornadoes often damage power lines, gas lines or electrical systems there is a risk of fire, electrocution or an explosion. Protecting yourself and your family requires promptly treating any injuries suffered during the storm and using extreme care to avoid further hazards.

INJURIES

Check for injuries. Do not attempt to move seriously injured people unless they are in immediate danger of further injury. Get medical assistance immediately. If someone has stopped breathing, begin CPR if you are trained to do so Stop a bleeding injury by applying direct pressure to the wound. Have any puncture wound evaluated by a physician. If you are trapped, try to attract attention to your location.

GENERAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Here are some safety precautions that could help you avoid injury after a tornado:

- ❑ Continue to monitor your battery-powered radio or television for emergency information.
- ❑ Be careful when entering any structure that has been damaged.
- ❑ Wear sturdy shoes or boots, long sleeves and gloves when handling or walking on or near debris.
- ❑ Be aware of hazards from exposed nails and broken glass.
- ❑ Do not touch downed power lines or objects in contact with downed lines. Report electrical hazards to the police and the utility company. Use battery-powered lanterns, if possible, rather than candles to light homes without electrical power. If you use candles, make sure they are in safe holders away from curtains, paper, wood or other flammable items. Never leave a candle burning when you are out of the room.
- ❑ Never use generators, pressure washers, grills, camp stoves or other gasoline, propane, natural gas or charcoal burning devices inside your home, basement, garage or camper - or even outside near an open window, door or vent. Carbon monoxide (CO) - an odorless, colorless gas that can cause sudden illness and death if you breathe it - from these sources can build up in your home, garage or camper and poison the people and animals inside. Seek prompt medical attention if you suspect CO poisoning and are feeling dizzy, light-headed or nauseated.
- ❑ Hang up displaced telephone receivers that may have been knocked off by the tornado, but stay

off the telephone, except to report an emergency.

- ❑ Respond to requests for volunteer assistance by police, fire fighters, emergency management and relief organizations, but do not go into damaged areas unless assistance has been requested. Your presence could hamper relief efforts and you could endanger yourself.

INSPECTING THE DAMAGE

- ❑ After a tornado, be aware of possible structural, electrical or gas-leak hazards in your home. Contact your local city or county building inspectors for information on structural safety codes and standards. They may also offer suggestions on finding a qualified contractor to do work for you.

- ❑ In general, if you suspect any damage to your home, shut off electrical power, natural gas and propane tanks to avoid fire, electrocution or explosions.

- ❑ If it is dark when you are inspecting your home, use a flashlight rather than a candle or torch to avoid the risk of fire or explosion in a damaged home.

- ❑ If you see frayed wiring or sparks, or if there is an odor of something burning, you should immediately shut off the electrical system at the main circuit breaker if you have not done so already.

- ❑ If you smell gas or suspect a leak, turn off the main gas valve, open all windows and leave the house immediately. Notify the gas company, the police or fire departments, or State Fire Marshal's office and do not turn on the lights, light matches, smoke or do anything that could cause a spark. Do not return to your house until you are told it is safe to do so.

SAFETY DURING CLEAN UP

- ❑ Wear sturdy shoes or boots, long sleeves and gloves.

- ❑ Learn proper safety procedures and operating instructions before operating any gas-powered or electric-powered saws or tools.

- ❑ Clean up spilled medicines, drugs, flammable liquids and other potentially hazardous materials.

For More Information:
FEMA Tornado Publications: http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=1563

SECTION II

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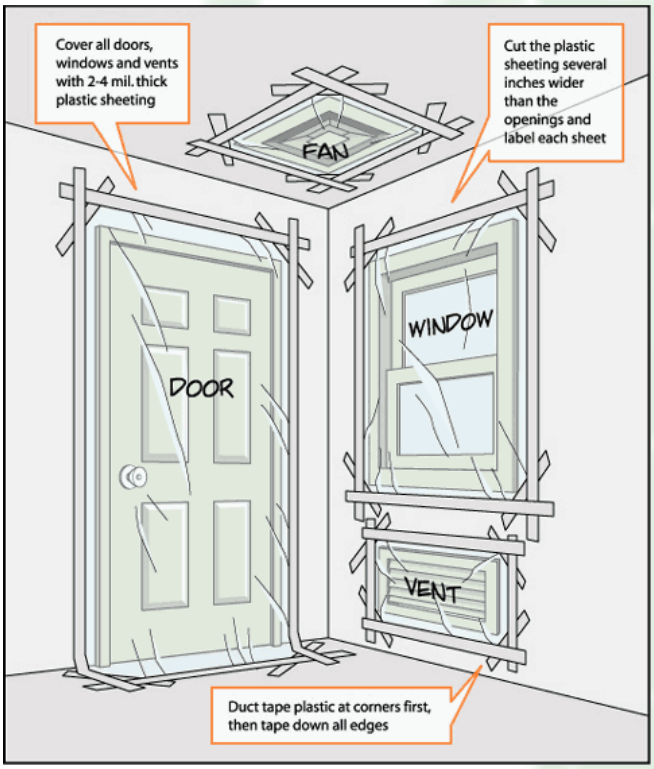
SHELTER-IN-PLACE

"One day, bombs are going to fall so that they won't miss a spot as wide as my shoe." He said that you are going to need a basement to hide in**.**

Reported oral statement of Prophet Noble Drew Ali

In the event hazardous materials are released into the atmosphere inside of your community, certain safeguards and precaution instructions are available to keep you and your family safe while remaining indoors or in your vehicle. Shelter in place refers to selecting a small, interior room, with no or few windows, or sealing vents and taking refuge in your car or truck, due to chemical, biological, or radiological contaminants that may have been released accidentally or intentionally into the environment.

SHELTER-IN-PLACE AT HOME



Avoid overcrowding by pre-selecting several interior rooms with the fewest number of windows or vents. The appropriate location depends entirely on the emergency situation. If a chemical has been released, you should take shelter in a room above ground level, because some chemicals are heavier than air and may seep below ground. On the other hand, if there are radioactive particles in the air, you should choose a centrally located room or basement. Knowing what to do under specific circumstances is an important part of **being prepared**.

The rooms should have adequate space for everyone to be able to sit, including an estimated number of visitors. Large storage closets, utility rooms, pantries, break rooms and copy and conference rooms without exterior windows would work well. Access to bathrooms is a plus. It is ideal to have hard-wired telephones in the rooms you select; use cordless phones (but not cell phones – the system may be overloaded in an emergency but if you do use a cell phone a pre-paid cell phone would be your best bet for connectivity), if necessary. The rooms should be equipped with a disaster supplies kit.

- ❑ Close and lock all windows and exterior doors.
- ❑ If you are told there is danger of explosion, close the window shades, blinds, or curtains.
- ❑ Turn off all fans, heating and air conditioning systems.
- ❑ Close the fireplace damper.
- ❑ Get your family disaster supplies kit and make sure the radio is working.
- ❑ Go to an interior room without windows that's above ground level. In the case of a chemical threat, an above-ground location is preferable because some chemicals are heavier than air, and may seep into basements even if the windows are closed.
- ❑ Bring your pets with you, and be sure to bring additional food and water supplies for them.
- ❑ It is ideal to have a hard-wired telephone in the room you select. Call your emergency contact And have the phone available if you need to report a life-threatening condition. Cellular telephone equipment may be overwhelmed or damaged during an emergency.
- ❑ Use duct tape and plastic sheeting (heavier than food wrap) to seal all cracks around the door and any vents into the room.
- ❑ Keep listening to your radio or television until you are told all is safe or you are told to evacuate. Local officials may call for evacuation in specific areas at greatest risk in your community

SHELTER-IN-PLACE IN YOUR VEHICLE

- ❑ If you are very close to home, your workplace or a public building, go there immediately and go inside. Follow the "shelter-in-place" recommendations for that location.
- ❑ If you are unable to get indoors quickly and safely, then pull over to the side of the road. Stop your vehicle in the safest place possible. If it is sunny outside, it is preferable to stop under a bridge or in a shady spot to avoid being overheated.
- ❑ Turn off the engine.
- ❑ Close windows and vents.
- ❑ If possible, seal the heating, ventilating and air conditioning vents with duct tape or anything else you may have available.
- ❑ Listen to the radio periodically for updated advice and instructions. (Modern car radios consume very little battery power and should not affect your ability to start your car later.)
- ❑ Stay where you are until you are told it is safe to get back on the road. Be aware that some roads may be closed or traffic detoured. Follow the directions of law enforcement officials which are in conformity with Love, Truth, Peace, Freedom, and Justice.

CHEMICAL THREATS

- Chemical agents are poisonous vapors, aerosols, liquids, and solids that have toxic effects on people, animals, or plants.
- Chemical threats can be released by bombs or sprayed from aircraft, boats, and vehicles. They can be used as a liquid to create a hazard to people and the environment.
- Some chemical agents may be odorless and tasteless.
- They can have an immediate effect (a few seconds to a few minutes) or a delayed effect (two to 48 hours).
- Go indoors, close all windows, doors, and vents, and turn off all cooling or heating systems.
- Protect your breathing, cover your nose and mouth with a hankie or cloth if instructed to by authorities.
- CDC – Chemical Agent Listing - http://www.bt.cdc.gov/chemical/factsheets.asp

BIOLOGICAL THREATS

- Biological agents are organisms or toxins that can kill or incapacitate people, livestock, and crops.
- The three basic groups of biological agents that would likely be used as weapons are bacteria, viruses, and toxins.
- Biological agents can be dispersed by spraying them into the air, by infecting animals that carry the disease to humans, and by contaminating food and water.
- A biological agent such as anthrax is an infection that is caused by spore-forming bacteria. These spores are found in soil and can live there for years. Infection with Anthrax is common in cattle, sheep and goats, but it can also infect humans. The anthrax germ is spread through skin contact, ingesting the germ into the stomach (eating tainted meat, etc.), or when anthrax spores are inhaled into the lungs. Most often, symptoms occur between 1 and 7 days after contact with anthrax, but there may be prolonged periods of up to 60 or more days without symptoms. Many drugs treat anthrax and early treatment is vital for a person to survive.
- CDC -Bioterrorism/Agents Diseases - http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/agentlist.asp

RADIOLOGICAL DISPERSION DEVICE (RDD)

- Often called a (dirty nuke or dirty bomb), it is far more likely to be used by individuals than a nuclear explosive device. An RDD combines a conventional explosive device (such as a bomb) with radioactive material. It is designed to scatter dangerous and sub-lethal amounts of radioactive material over a general area.
- Depending on the speed at which the area of the RDD detonation was evacuated or how successful people were at sheltering-in-place, the number of deaths and injuries from an RDD might not be substantially greater than from a conventional bomb explosion.

NUCLEAR BLASTS

- A nuclear blast is an explosion with intense light and heat, a damaging pressure wave, and widespread radioactive material that can contaminate the air, water, and ground surfaces fro miles around. A nuclear device can range from a weapon carried by an intercontinental missile to a small portable nuclear device transported by an individual.

DECONTAMINATION

- Although food or water contamination or absorption through the skin are possible attack routes, most experts agree that inhalation of chemical or biological agents is the most likely and effective means. Protection of breathing airways is therefore the single most important factor in a situation where chemical or biological agents may be present.

- Many likely agents are heavier than air and would tend to stay close to the ground. This dictates an upward safehaven strategy.

- Basic decontamination procedures are generally the same no matter what the agent. Thorough scrubbing with large amounts of warm soapy water or a mixture of 10 parts water to 1 part bleach (10:1) will greatly reduce the possibility of absorbing an agent through the skin.

- If water is not available, talcum powder or flour are also excellent means of decontamination of liquid agents. Sprinkle the flour or powder liberally over the affected skin area, wait 30 seconds, and brush off with a rag or gauze pad. (Note: The powder absorbs the agent so it must be brushed off thoroughly. If available, rubber gloves should be used when carrying out this procedure.)

- Generally, chemical agents tend to present an immediately noticeable effect, whereas many biological agents will take days before symptoms appear. In either case, medical attention should be sought immediately, even if exposure is thought to be limited.

- Most chemical and biological agents that present an inhalation hazard will break down fairly rapidly when exposed to the sun, diluted with water, or dissipated in high winds.

- No matter what the agent or its concentration, evacuation from the area of attack is always advisable unless you are properly equipped with an appropriate breathing device and protective clothing or have access to collective protection.

WARNING SIGNS OF AN ATTACK OR INCIDENT

A chemical or biological attack or incident won't always be immediately apparent given the fact that many agents are odorless and colorless and some cause no immediately noticeable effects or symptoms. Be alert to the possible presence of agent. Indicators of such an attack include:

- Droplets of oily film on surfaces

- Unusual dead or dying animals in the area

- Unusual liquid sprays or vapors

- Unexplained odors (smell of bitter almonds, peach kernels, newly mown hay, or green grass)

- Unusual or unauthorized spraying in the area

- Victims displaying symptoms of nausea, difficulty breathing, convulsions, disorientation, or patterns of illness inconsistent with natural disease
- Low-lying clouds or fog unrelated to weather; clouds of dust; or suspended, possibly colored, particles
- People dressed unusually (long-sleeved shirts or overcoats in the summertime) or wearing breathing protection particularly in areas where large numbers of people tend to congregate, such as subways or stadiums

SECTION III

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HOME SURVIVAL

"One day the European is going to let you down. You are going to have to put a 90 day supply of food to last you until your brothers come to your rescue from the East." "One day, the Europeans are going to lock the food up in warehouses, put soldiers around them to guard them, and you will go anywhere he says to get something to eat." One day, some of you old Moors are going to be so hungry that you are going to bite into your own flesh, and blood will skeet out, and you are going to get angry with yourself, because you didn't put up enough food."

Reported oral statements of Prophet Noble Drew Ali

In the event a national state of emergency is declared due to natural disasters, civil war, etc., you might not be able to leave your home for long periods of time. In the face of these situations, the environment of our homes should be as comfortable as possible. The décor of the rooms in our homes or apartments should have colors that soothe and relax us. We should also obtain a lot of plants to keep in each room to clean the air in our home. A Moslem home should be clean, and have a pleasant smell. Purchase incense or air fresheners; that create an inviting atmosphere. Living amongst friends, and loved ones during catastrophic events dictates order and discipline. Food, water, and the proper storage of them, is critical for successful home survival. The following information has been presented for home survival and to benefit those Moors who want to thrive in a time when grocery stores, medical centers, and department stores are closed down, not accessable to the public. Islam!

FOOD STORAGE AREA

"There is going to be a famine in the land."

Reported oral statement of Prophet Noble Drew Ali

The key to prolonging the shelf life of your food lies in lowering the temperature of the area it is stored in. The storage lives of most foods are cut in half by every increase of 18ºF (10º Celsius). For example, if you've stored your food in a garage that has a temperature of 90ºF, you should expect a shelf life less than half of what could be obtained at room temperature (70ºF) this in turn is less than half the storage life that you could get if you kept them in your refrigerator at 40ºF. Your storage area should be located where the temperature can be kept above freezing (32ºF) and, if possible, below 72ºF.

(NOTE: Purchase a thermometer and place it in the area you are storing your food so you can monitor the temperature adhering to the above guidelines.)

Ideally, your storage location should have a humidity level of 15% or less, but unless you live in the desert it's not terribly likely you'll be able to achieve this. Regardless, moisture is not good for your dry stored edibles so you can want to minimize it as much as possible. This can be done by several methods. The first is to keep the area air-conditioned and/or dehumidified during the humid times of the year. The second is to use packaging that keeps out moisture and then to deal with the moisture trapped inside. Oxygen is another threat to stored food. Chances are that if your foods are sealed in moisture-proof containers the containers are probably air-tight as well. Vacum sealing is a good tactic to achieve an air-tight seal on the bottle or jar you are storing.

All containers should be kept off of the floor and out of direct contact from exterior walls to reduce the chances of condensation brought on by temperature differences between the container and the surface it's resting against.

Once you have temperature, humidity and oxygen under control, it is then necessary to look at light. Light is a form of energy and when it shines on your stored foods long enough it transfers some of that energy to your food. This has the effect of degrading nutritional content and appearance. Fat soluble vitamins, such as A, D, E, and K are particularly sensitive to light degradation. If you don't have a room that can be dedicated to this purpose then store the jars in the cardboard box they came in. This will protect them not only from light, but help to cushion them from shocks which might break ajar or cause it to lose its seal.

For summary, these 5 rules of good storage should keep your food wholesome and nutritious for as long as possible:

1. First In, First Out (FIFO) means rotating your storage for efficient use (date the food that is placed in storage.) Planned rotation will keep stored food in good condition and minimize spoilage and loss of food value.
2. Cooler is better
3. Drier is better
4. Less oxygen exposure means more shelf life.
5. Don't shed light on your food.

Remember, no food can be stored forever. Store only the food that you and your family normally eats. Date cans, jars, and packages. As a general rule of thumb, grocery store canned foods are good for 18 months.

FOOD CONTAINERS

To prevent insect infestation of bulk foods, keep all stored foods in tight, clean, metal and plastic or glass insect proof containers, with tight fitting lids. A food grade container is one that will not transfer noxious or toxic substances into the food it is holding. To be totally certain you are buying quality more specific when buying containers enquire if the container is U.S. FDA approved; or safe for food use.

Virtually all containers used in home food preservation involving exposure to high temperatures are made of glass or metal. Glass can be used with any food type providing it is clean and in sound condition, but the lids, particularly the liner inside the lid, may not be so you'll have to investigate

suitability. Metal cans are more specialized. They must be intended for food use and must also have a lining or coating of the inside that is suitable for the pH level of the food it will be in contact with.

Many well known companies such as Tupperware and Rubbermaid manufacture and sell empty packaging for the express purpose of containing repackaged foods. The kinds of containers you are interested in and the types of foods you want to put in those containers will dictate where you need to look for a particular system. Locally, plastic five gallon buckets are widely available, but only if you purchase them through a restaurant or commercial foods supply house will you likely be able to tell if they're safe to keep food in. If you can locate a customer service number for the manufacturer you can call them and ask. Many times manufacturers will make products that are FDA approved and sell them as general purpose containers, but you need to call to be sure. Packaging supply houses, such as *United States Plastics* and others, have large FDA approved packaging lines. Some require minimum orders and others don't. Some research in library reference sections, might turn up some valuable leads.

For glass jars, don't overlook flea markets, yard sales, thrift shops, etc. Canning jars can be had for very little. Restaurants of all sorts can be a good source of one gallon glass jars formerly containing pickles, peppers, etc. If the lids are still in good condition, they are well suited to bulk storage and can be reused over and over.

Metal cans, by and large, are not reusable for good storage, but some companies might be able to sell you new cans. The traditional single use #10 can is only the beginning of what might be available with a little looking. Gallon sized or larger cans with double friction lids (like paint comes in) make excellent storage containers and some companies make them food safe, and can hold edible oils, soy sauce, honey, and other liquid food, etc. One gallon and larger cans with wide diameter screw caps are available from some companies as well. If they come with a cap that will seal air tight they would be well suited for bulk storage of grains and legumes, particularly if they come in a four to six gallon size.

SOME COMMON FOOD STORAGE INSTRUCTIONS

The following provides some general guidelines for replacement of common emergency foods.

Use within six months:

Powered milk – boxed
Dried Fruit
Dry, crisp crackers
Potatoes

Use within one year, or before the date indicated on the label:

Canned condensed meat and vegetable soups
Canned fruits, fruit juices, dried fruit, and vegetables
Ready-to-eat cereals and uncooked instant cereals
Peanut butter
Hard Candy
Vitamins

May be stored indefinitely (in proper air tight containers and conditions):

Wheat – (Check for insects at top of package upon purchase, properly stored can be preserved for ten years or longer.)
Vegetable Oils Dry Pasta
Dried Corn White Rice
Baking Powder Salt
Soybeans
Instant coffee, tea, and cocoa
Non carbonated soft drinks

WHEN ELECTRICITY GOES OUT

If electricity goes off... use perishable food from the refrigerator, pantry, garden, etc.
Then… use foods from the freezer. To limit the number of times you open the freezer door, post a list of freezer contents on it. In a well filled, well insulated freezer, foods will usually still have ice crystals in their centers (meaning foods are safe to eat) for at least two days.
Finally…begin to use non-perishable foods and staples.

When food supplies are low, healthy people can survive on half their usual food intake for an extended period and without any food for many days. Food, unlike water, may be rationed safely, except for children and pregnant women. If your water supply is limited, don't eat salty foods, since they will make you thirsty. Instead, eat salt-free crackers, whole grain cereals, and canned foods with high liquid content. During and after a disaster maintain your strength by eating one balanced meal a day, drink at least two quarts of water a day to enable your body to function properly, and remember to include vitamin, mineral, and protein supplements.

HOME SURVIVAL FOOD STOCKPILE LIST

- ❑ Canned salmon
- ❑ Canned tuna
- ❑ Canned turkey breast
- ❑ Canned soup
- ❑ Top ramen noodles
- ❑ Canned Corn
- ❑ Canned green beans
- ❑ Canned peas
- ❑ Canned beets
- ❑ Canned carrots
- ❑ Canned potatoes

- ❑ Canned navy beans
- ❑ Canned onions
- ❑ Instant potatoes
- ❑ Brown rice
- ❑ Raisins
- ❑ Canned pineapple
- ❑ Dried apples
- ❑ Dried bananas
- ❑ Dried peaches
- ❑ Dried apricots
- ❑ Dates
- ❑ Almonds
- ❑ Walnuts
- ❑ Pecans
- ❑ Bags of chips
- ❑ Olive Oil
- ❑ Dry Seasonings
- ❑ Pam cooking spray
- ❑ Bottled Lemon Juice
- ❑ Granola bars
- ❑ Cookies
- ❑ Popcorn
- ❑ Brown sugar
- ❑ Cornstarch
- ❑ Yeast
- ❑ Baking powder
- ❑ Baking soda
- ❑ Instant Coffee
- ❑ Tea Bags
- ❑ Salt

- ❑ Water

- ❑ **Supplements** –
Dietary tablet multivitamin supplements can be a key source of vital nutrients not received through canned foods during these times. Any nutrition or health food Can goods can assist you in stockpiling these essential supplements.

- ❑ **Herbs** – Herbs are potent, natural, and an excellent source of many different vitamins. Research herbs and the many different functions they serve. Visit a health store, get books from the library. Herbs will also be life savers during these times.

(NOTE: The food list presented here is a basic foundation on which to build from. Tailor the list to the foods that your family eats.)

WATER STORAGE & PURIFICATION

Water is an essential element to survival and a necessary item in an emergency supplies kit. Following a disaster, clean drinking water may not be available. Your regular water source could be cut-off or compromised through contamination. Prepare yourself by building a supply of water that will meet your family's needs during an emergency.

HOW MUCH WATER DO I NEED?

You should store at least one gallon of water per person per day. A normally active person needs at least one gallon of water daily just for drinking however individual needs vary, depending on age, physical condition, activity, diet and climate. To determine your water needs, take the following into account:

- ❑ One gallon of water per person per day, for drinking and sanitation.
- ❑ Children, nursing mothers and sick people may need more water.
- ❑ A medical emergency might require additional water.
- ❑ If you live in a warm weather climate more water may be necessary. In very hot temperatures, water needs can double.
- ❑ Keep at least a three-day supply of water per person.

HOW SHOULD I STORE WATER?

It is recommended you purchase commercially bottled water, in order to prepare the safest and most reliable emergency water supply. Keep bottled water in its original container and do not open until you need to use it. Observe the expiration or "use by" date. Store in cool, dark place. Store as much water as possible in advance of a known water shortage. The best containers to store water are 5 gallon buckets or larger plastic barrels, (30 or 55 gallon sizes). Smaller containers can be glass jugs or 2 liter soda bottles. Ensure the water jugs/bottles you use are cleaned out thoroughly. A two week supply of water is a safe and realistic amount to store in your home safeguarding you and your family against an impending emergency; water shortage.

- **Glass** is an effective storage container, but light can penetrate changing the makeup of the water. Safe for outside chemicals.
- **Plastic** polyethylene containers are safe for water storage. Keep away from chemicals that might seep through.

- **Metal** rust proof containers can be used; traces of metal might be tasted. Stainless steel containers can be used for water storage also.

PREPARING YOUR OWN CONTAINERS OF WATER

- ❑ It is recommended you purchase food grade water storage containers from surplus or camping supplies stores to use for water storage.
- ❑ Before filling with water, thoroughly clean the containers with dishwashing soap and water and rinse completely so there is no residual soap.
- ❑ If you chose to use your own storage containers, choose two-liter plastic soft drink bottles – not plastic jugs or cardboard containers that have had milk or fruit juice in them. Milk protein and fruit sugars cannot be adequately removed from these containers and provide an environment for bacterial growth when water is stored in them. Cardboard containers also leak easily and are not designed for long-term storage of liquids. Also, do not use glass containers, because they can break and are heavy.

STORING WATER IN PLASTIC SODA BOTTLES

FOLLOW THESE STEPS FOR STORING WATER IN PLASTIC SODA BOTTLES

- ❑ Thoroughly clean the bottles with dish washing soap and water, and rinse completely so there is no residual soap.
- ❑ Sanitize the bottles by adding a solution of 1 teaspoon of non-scented liquid household chlorine bleach to a quart of water. Mix the sanitizing solution in the bottle so that it touches all surfaces.
- ❑ After sanitizing the bottle, thoroughly rinse out the sanitizing solution with clean water.
- ❑ Fill the bottle to the top with regular tap water. If the tap water has been commercially treated from a water utility with chlorine, you do not need to add anything else to the water to keep it clean. If the water you are using comes from a well or water source that is not treated with chlorine, add two drops of non-scented liquid household chlorine bleach to the water. Let the water stand for 30 minutes before using.
- ❑ A slight chlorine odor should be noticeable in the water, if not, add another dose of bleach and allow the water to stand another 15 minutes.

EMERGENCY WATER SOURCES

Water heaters, toilet tanks, and water pipes are all sources to look for extra water which will aid in survival. Rain, natural lakes, rivers, and snow are also natural sources of water. Canned goods are also packed in water or juices that will help you survive. In addition ice in the refrigerator or freezer can be melted down to use as drinking water.

WATER PURIFICATION

"Boil your drinking water."

Reported oral statement of Prophet Noble Drew Ali

BOILING WATER

This is the surest method of purifying water of bacteria and microbes. Sources conflict as to how long it is necessary to boil water to kill all of the harmful microbes. However, it should be boiled at least 5 minutes, and boiling for more like 20 minutes is probably the safest.

Boiling water requires heat, and therefore a fire of some sort. And as well you will need a container. If you have a fire-proof container, then you can put the water into the container and place the container on the fire. Otherwise you will need to use rock-boiling.

With rock boiling you place stones in a fire, wait for them to heat up, then remove them and place them into the container full of water. The water will quickly heat up as the hot rock transfers its heat to the water. You will need enough rocks in the fire to keep adding them to the container of water often enough that the water comes to a boil and stays boiling for the required time (5-20 minutes).

CHLORINE TO PURIFY WATER

You can use household liquid bleach to kill microorganisms. Use only regular household liquid bleach that contains 5.25 to 6.0 percent sodium hypochlorite. Do not use scented bleaches, color safe bleaches or bleaches with added cleaners. Because the potency of bleach diminishes with time, use bleach from a newly opened or unopened bottle.

Add 16 drops (1/8 teaspoon) of bleach per gallon of water, stir and let stand for 30 minutes. The water should have a slight bleach odor. If it doesn't, then repeat the dosage and let stand another 15 minutes. If it still does not smell of chlorine, discard it and find another source of water.

Other chemicals, such as iodine or water treatment products sold in camping or surplus stores that do not contain 5.25 or 6.0 percent sodium hypochlorite as the only active ingredient, are not recommended and should not be used.

WATER PURIFICATION TABLETS

Potable Aqua Tablets are used by various militaries and emergency relief organizations around the world following disasters to make it safe for survival victims to drink from water sources with questionable bacteriological quality. They are also affordable, easily transported and simple to use! Bottle of 50 Potable Aqua water purification tablets to treat 25 quarts of water for safe consumption. Just add 2 tablets to 1 quart of water to make questionable water bacteriologically safe to drink. Easy-to-use, safe, and fast-acting formula EPA registered to exceed criteria for disinfection of drinking water. The current standard issue water purification tablet for the US Military.

Potable Aqua Drinking Water Germicidal Tablets are intended for emergency disinfection of drinking water. When used as directed, they can make most waters bacteriologically suitable for drinking. Used worldwide by the military, emergency organizations, campers, backpackers, hikers and anyone faced with the need to drink water of uncertain bacteriological quality. The product is for use only when water is suspected or known to be substandard. It is not intended for use on a continuous basis but for short term or limited emergency use only.

ASSESSING WATER PURITY

Here are some general rules for water purity. Please bear in mind that these are general rules only. Every situation must be assessed on its own. This section does NOT take into account pollutants (see next section).

- Running water is generally better than still water.
- Water coming out of the ground from a spring is generally more pure than water that has been running over the ground
- Look for clear water
- Avoid water that has algae growing in it
- Avoid discolored water
- Avoid water in marshes and swamps

POLLUTANTS

The modern world has added a whole layer of complexity when it comes to assessing water purity: human-made chemicals and pollutants. And even if there are no human-made, manufactured pollutants in an area to worry about, human activity such as mining releases elements that may be harmful, such as heavy metals, mercury, cyanide, arsenic, etc.

Here are some general rules to follow. Again, every situation must be assessed on its own.

- Stay away from water that is near roads. Automobile engines spew out a very toxic brew of pollutants that are harmful, and they don't all go up into the air.
- Don't drink water downriver of mine sites, industry, factories, cities and towns, or any human habitation.
- Don't drink water that has passed through agricultural lands - it may contain fertilizers and pesticides.

WATER PRIMITIVE SURVIVAL SITUATIONS

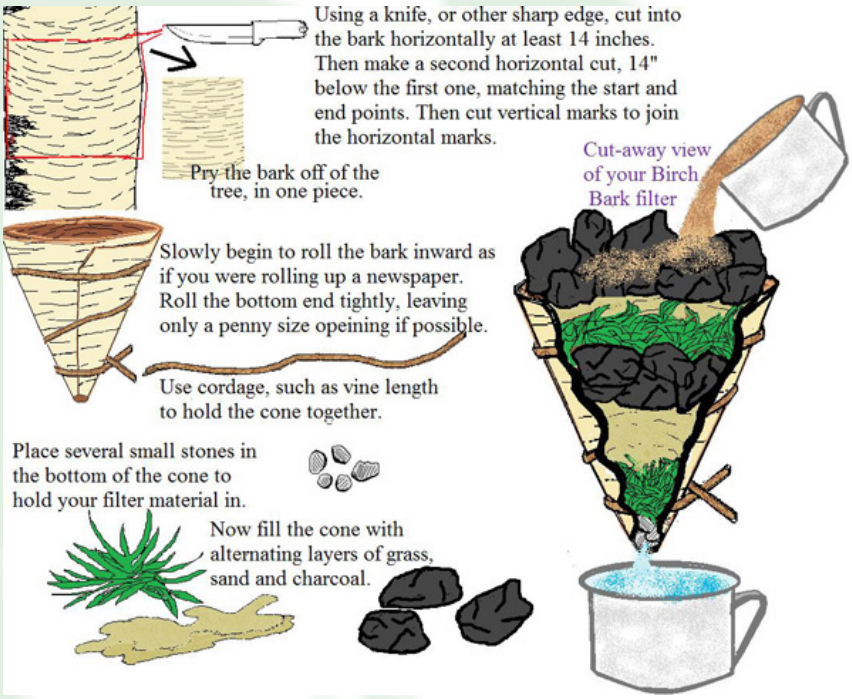
In a primitive survival situation, there are a number of different ways to filter water.

BUILD A WATER FILTER

You can make a water filter from a cone of birch bark. This cone is then filled with layers of sand, charcoal, grasses, and other materials. Grasses and sand help to trap suspended particles. Charcoal helps to remove bacteria and such. You may have to pass the water through the filter more than once, depending on the size of the filter and what it's made of. Generally speaking, the bigger the filter, and the more layers you have in it, the better.

The birch bark cone will need to have a fairly small hole in the bottom. The cone will have to be tied with cordage to keep it from opening up. Put a few stones in the very bottom, to help hold your filtering materials in place. Then pour in layers of charcoal, grasses, sand, and possibly other materials that you feel will help to filter out suspended particles and perhaps even bacteria.

Once you have constructed the filter, simply pour impure water through the filer, catching it in another container at the bottom.



WATER PRESERVATION

YOU CAN PRESERVE WATER USING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

- ❑ Add 1/2 to 1 tablespoon of household bleach, such as Clorox, to each 5 gallon bucket. (Just about all bleaches have 5 ½ % Sodium Hypochlorite, which is the purification chemical.)

- ❑ Add 1/2 cup of bleach to a 55 gallon barrel. Add 1/3 cup of bleach to a 30 gallon barrel. (Putting more than the recommended amount will not injure the water.)

MECHANICAL PURIFIERS

There are various models and brands of mechanical purifiers on the market but all work on the same principle. 4% of the Sodium Hypochlorite and less than 1% silver ions. These are bacteria killing agents. Mechanical water purifiers will remove chlorides, iodine taste and other gases making the water clear and good tasting. They also remove particles but will not remove salt and other needed minerals.

If the water you must use is suspected of being highly bacteria laden, use the 8 drops of bleach per gallon and allow to stand for 30 minutes before running through the mechanical purifier. **Water purification tablets** can be used before pouring through the mechanical water purifier.

HOME SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT STOCKPILE LIST

- ❑ Family sized tent
- ❑ Tube tent
- ❑ Gas Shut-off Wrench
- ❑ Toilet Sanitation Bags
- ❑ Whistle
- ❑ Work Gloves
- ❑ Latex Gloves
- ❑ Thermal Blankets (Wool, Cotton, etc.) .
- ❑ Sleeping Bags
- ❑ Waterproof Matches
- ❑ 12 Hour Light Sticks
- ❑ Rain Coats / Ponchos
- ❑ Solar Powered Flashlight Radio Combo (Never needs batteries)
- ❑ Survival Knives
- ❑ Multi-Function Tools
- ❑ Duct Tape
- ❑ Fire Escape Ladders (2 – 3 story)
- ❑ Nylon Cord
- ❑ Bullhorn
- ❑ Industrial Certified First Aid Kits
- ❑ Water Storage Container Water bags
- ❑ Small LED Flashlight
- ❑ Basic Flashlights
- ❑ Emergency Batteries – 20 Year Shelf Life (DD)
- ❑ Binoculars
- ❑ Emergency 36 Hour Candles
- ❑ Water Purification Tablets
- ❑ Dust Masks

- ❑ Toilet Paper
- ❑ Mirrors (Used for signaling)
- ❑ Toothpaste
- ❑ Toilet Paper
- ❑ Short Wave Radio
- ❑ Gas Masks
- ❑ Kerosene Lamp
- ❑ Candles / Candle Holders
- ❑ Coleman Portable Stove (Bought at Camping/Department Stores)
- ❑ Bicycles (Emergency Transportation)
- ❑ Razor Blades
- ❑ Maps (Local, City, State)
- ❑ Clothing For Survival (Wool, Parkas, Gortex, Thick Pants)
- ❑ Repair Tools
- ❑ Ax
- ❑ Saw
- ❑ Compass
- ❑ Shovel
- ❑ Drills
- ❑ Gardening Hoe
- ❑ Toys / Activities For Children
- ❑ Paper and Pencils/Pens
- ❑ Mechanical Water Purifier

WEBSITES FOR EMERGENCY SUPPLIES AND GEAR

1. Tools, guides & equipment to stay off the grid or be prepared for any man made emergency or natural disaster - http://bit.ly/survivalsolutions
2. Life Straw technology filters. The ability to drink water at anytime and anywhere with high grade filtration - http://www.vestergaard-frandsen.com/lifestraw
3. For emergency kits, grab and go or bulk storage for the home, this websites have Herbs, Spices, Seasonings, Tinctures, Extracts, Herbal Oils and more - http://bitly.com/MRHOrganicHerbs

BACKUP POWER GENERATORS

Having a home back up power source is another important step in being prepared for disasters. Power generators are great products to help maintain electricity in homes during electrical power failure, blackouts and rolling brownouts. They can keep the whole house powered or just certain appliances like refrigerators and freezers.

The most commonly used back up power sources are gas and propane generators; however, there are alternatives such as wind and solar power.

- Do you want back up power for only a few appliances or for all of your appliances?
- Create a list of the items you want to run off the generator and the wattage requirement of each item (note any differences for start-up and usage).
- Do you want a permanent or portable generator - one that will kick on automatically when the power shuts off and switches off when the power returns or one that you will hook up as needed.
- Determine the type of fuel source you will use; gas, diesel, propane or do you want to go the wind or solar route.
- When comparing prices within your wattage requirements the average unit ranges from $500 to $3,000 depending upon brand, size, wattage, fuel source, warranty and maintenance requirements.

Special Note - Install a transfer switch to connect the unit to your home's wiring system - **never** connect a generator directly to your home. Hire a qualified electrician to install a transfer switch if you are connecting the generator directly to your home's electrical system.

Figure on $500 to $1,000 for installing stationary generators and, for all types, at least $500 for a power-transfer switch to power hardwired circuits, which avoids having to run extension cords.

TIPS FOR PURCHASING A USED GENERATOR

Purchasing a pre-owned generator is the most cost effective way to obtain a backup power supply. However, there are a few things to consider when buying a used generator.

Reputation of brand and the make:

- Buying a branded product will help you to get the top quality services and maintenance for your product.
- Trust the professional reputation of the dealer. Know the history of the machine:
- How old is the unit.
- How many hours it had run.
- How the unit had been used in the past - was it used for constant generation of power, or it was mainly a stand by unit.
- Enquire about the maintenance history - was it blown up previously and rebuilt just to sell it.
  Ask whether the machine has been de-installed or re-installed in the past or whether the generator is maintained with a dyno-testing equipment. Visually inspect the unit for any trace the signs of physical wear and tear. Also check carefully, whether any mechanical parts have developed any corrosion. In case of any doubt, ask the seller to replace it with manufacturer approved component.

If you are using gas or diesel you will need to have plenty of fuel on hand, since filling stations often shut down during blackouts and most home-sized models use 12 to 18 gallons of gasoline per day. You'll also need to preserve that fuel with stabilizer and store it in a well-vented shed or other area, away from the house and any ignition source.

Gasoline can't be stored for a long time and diesel is not readily available so it would best to use propane. There are times that home generators are available in dual- or tri-fuel format wherein switching fuels is totally fine.

Also, be aware that manufacturers often overstate run time for gasoline models by basing it on 50 percent load. Consumer Reports run times use a more conservative, 80 percent load.

GAS, DIESEL AND PROPANE FUEL RISKS

- **Prevent carbon-monoxide poisoning** by always running your generator outdoors and at least 15 feet away from the house. Never run it in the basement or garage or other enclosed space.
- **Reduce fire risk** by turning off gasoline-powered generators before refueling them.
- **Store gasoline** in an ANSI-approved container and in a cool, well-ventilated area.

MOST POPULAR BACK UP POWER SOURCE

Portable generators are the most popoular back up power source and consumer Reports has tested portable models that claimed between 2,800 and 6,600 watts—enough to power plug-in appliances and lights, but not nearly enough for heavy power drains like central heat & air.

WHEELED, PORTABLE GENERATORS ARE THE BIGGEST SELLERS.

One portable, the Northstar 8000TFG, can use a liquid-propane tank with several days' supply or a natural-gas line. But at $2,000, it's pricey for its wattage. **ETQ PG30P11 3,500 Watt 7 HP 208cc 4-Cycle OHV Propane Powered Portable Generator** ETQ clean-burning propane, portable generator provides quiet, efficient, and cost-effective power to electrical appliances.

You'll get the performance you need thanks to a seven-horsepower, 208-cc engine that produces up to 3,500 watts of energy--enough power to run your TV, refrigerator, water heater, or other household appliance.

Honeywell HW6200L 7,750 Watt 13 HP 389cc OHV Portable Gas Powered Home Generator (CARB Compliant)

The Honeywell portable generator provides dependable power in a simple and powerful portable electric generator. Great for residential applications and for homeowners seeking a reliable backup electric power generator.

Features an OHV engine with oversized muffler for quiet operation, Smart Start controls and wheel kit for easy portability.

WHOLE HOUSE GENERATORS

Of course, they are more expensive than portables and require professional installation, which are their main disadvantages. Note however, such systems do increase the value of the house.

Kohler Residential Standby Generator - 14 kW (LP)/12 kW (NG), Dual Fuel, Model# 14RESL Stationary, outside-mounted generators are a growing alternative back up power supply, since they run on propane or natural gas and supply more power.

Kohler's $3,700 12RESL delivered more than 10,000 watts and costs less than many in its class.

Sears offers a Briggs & Stratton Extended Life Series Engine, 10000 Running Watts - 12500 Starting Watts. Automatic start uses propane or natural gas fuel.

Quiet operation VANGUARD V-Twin engines Durable outdoor enclosure. Computer-friendly power. 3 year limited warranty.

ALTERNATIVE TO GAS & PROPANE GENERATORS

WIND AND SOLAR BACK UP POWER

If you are considering a wind generator look for:

- Those that offer a 3-5 year warranty or more. This is also a good indicator that the manufacturers have confidence in what they are producing because they know they would not make a profit using sub standard equipment backed with a long warranty.
- Systems which allow energy to be stored using a direct DC supply. You will also want to install an inverter to convert your stored DC energy into an AC supply for powering appliances in the home.
- Avoid any generators which come with built-in inverters as these can become easily damaged and will cost quite a bit to replace.

Cabelas offers SunForce Air X 400-Watt Wind Generator

Wind's efficiency and reliability makes it one of the best available sources of energy. Now you can put it to good use with this 400-watt wind-powered generator.

An average annual wind speed of 14 mph delivers enough power on average to run a list of more than ten popular appliances and electronics.

All you need is one or more 12-volt batteries (sold separately) to store power and an inverter to convert the power to the required voltage. The carbon fiber composite blades produce little more than a whisper of wind noise. Patented high wind over speed technology ensures a clean charge. Fully integrated regulator automatically shuts down when the batteries are charged to minimize wear.

Don't worry about maintenance on this unit. It has only two moving parts and the cast-aluminum body is durable and completely weatherproof. Delivers maximum power output of 400 watts or 27 amps in ideal conditions. Manufacturer's three-year warranty. Tower kit sold separately. Made in USA .Weight: 17 lbs.

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